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Tinian Dynasty won't reopen tomorrow. **PAGE 3**

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75¢

BSI posts rolling chip volume of \$6.1B

» Tax payout project at \$8.4M for 1st quarter
» Projected at \$34.1M for 2016 at current rate

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s temporary casino at T Galleria has posted a rolling chip volume of \$6,100,785,760 for the first quarter of 2016, according to Commonwealth Casino Commission data obtained yesterday.

This rolling chip volume is not the amount of money earned but indicates the amount of activity played, as each chip played has a value when converted into cash or

a loss equivalent.

According to commission data, Best Sunshine posted a rolling chip

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Ambrosio Ogumoro starts serving jail term

» Wiseman places under advisement defendant's motion to stay sentence pending appeal



By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro yesterday started serving his one-year prison term at the Department of Corrections as Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman heard his motion to stay his sentence pending the appeal of his

criminal conviction.

Wiseman, who is currently in Hawaii, presided yesterday an expedited hearing telephonically on Ogumoro's motion to stay.

Wiseman placed under advisement Ogumoro's motion. The judge also stated he would look into the request of special prosecutor George Lloyd Hasselback to be

See OGUMORO on **Page 4**



The Best Sunshine Live casino at the T Galleria in Garapan on a Wednesday night.

DENNIS B. CHAN

Navy asserts compliance with ESA

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of the Navy asserted yesterday their compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) over

a Marianas training project under fire from local and national groups over an alleged failure to comply with environmental law.

In February, counsel for Earthjustice and Center for Biological Diver-

sity (CBD), representing multiple parties, sent a letter to the Navy and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service giving notice of their intent to sue the two agencies for alleged violations of the ESA during implementation of the Mariana Islands Training and Testing program or MITT.

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INSIDE



BUSINESS

Eight years after the financial crisis erupted, the global economy remains fragile and at risk of another recession.

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FOCUS

Tensions in the South China Sea are rising, pitting China against smaller and weaker neighbors who all lay claim to islands, coral reefs and lagoons.

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LIFE & STYLE

Ben Affleck will direct a stand-alone "Batman" movie, says Warner Bros. chairman and CEO Kevin Tsujihara.

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Local

LibDay committee now accepting vendors

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The 2016 Liberation Day committee is now accepting applications from individuals or groups that want to put up concession stands for this year's carnival, which opens on June 10 at the Garapan Fishing Base across Kristo Rai Church.

Application forms can be picked up at the Saipan Mayor's Office from 7:30am to 4:30am from Mondays through Fridays except holidays or at www.saipanmayor.net or at the Skywalker Communications Group office at the Marianas Business Plaza.

The committee is encouraging interested vendors to start applying in order to at least reserve their place since spots are limited this year. The participants, after receiving the application, must review the regulations that can be found on the second page.

Rates for this year's booths are \$1,200 for food and non-alcoholic beverages; \$885 each for carnival booth games, souvenirs, and retailers; \$706 for arts and crafts; and \$150 for food cart vendors.

The deadline for the submission of application is on May 19, while the committee will hold an orientation on June 4.

The committee, along with representatives from Skywalker Communications, since early this year, has been working double time to make sure this year's celebration would run smoothly and without a hitch.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said they need to further plan on the festivities with only less than three months left before the actual celebration. "We need to get things going. We got a lot more planning to do and time is running short."

"We need to coordinate everything to know the preparations for the Liberation Day. We need to make sure everything is okay. We need to have more solid answers on everything in future meetings so people are aware of our preparation."

Apatang added that they wanted to make sure that



Apatang

they are on top of things with their preparation especially with a lot of events are taking place in the next two months. The Flame Tree Arts Festival opens today, while the

Taste of the Marianas is set for next month.

He said the committee needs all the help from its members and to all individuals who are involved in planning and organizing the 2016 Liberation Day Festival.

One way of informing the public, aside from regular stories published in the newspapers, is to go to radio stations like KKMP to announce and give updates of their preparations. "Everybody listens to the radio in the morning while going to work. We can make arrangements if ever."

"Let's move forward in planning the festival. We're making sure the celebration is better this year. Hopefully we won't experience last year where we put up the tents only to take them down due to bad weather."

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HIES survey to start in June

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

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REPORTER

The CNMI Department of Commerce is looking for additional staff to help them with the data gathering for the upcoming 2016 Household Income and Expenditure Survey.

According to Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman and the Central Statistics Division, they will be needing enumerators and data clerks to help with the data gathering phase of HIES, which is considered as "one of the largest surveys" of the department.

Thirty-six enumerators and about eight data clerks are needed for the survey, which will start in June. They will be supervised by staff and officers from CSD.

Aside from household income and expenditure, HIES will also provide information on labor force, unemployment rate, and various other socio-economic indicators. Data from the survey will also be used to revise the CNMI Consumer Price Index.

Data from this survey will be used for grants applications as well as policy-making.

According to CSD's Justin Andrew, a sample size of 10 percent of all occupied housing units in Saipan has been determined for the survey. There are about 12,000 units that are occupied in Saipan, and they will therefore have 1,200 houses that will be part of the study.

For Rota and Tinian, they will need to double the sample size to 20 percent.

A pretesting of the questionnaire was made through 100 randomly selected housing units in Saipan and the results will be used to finalize the survey questionnaire and edit the programs.

The HIES is funded by the Office of Insular Affairs, which granted \$307,672 for the survey to be conducted.

In the grant funding, Commerce was asked, "to obtain, compile, and disseminate data on household income and expenditures in the Northern Mariana Islands and to provide cost-effective economic indicators, data, and performance measures related to economic development and self-sufficiency needs."

HIES was last completed in 2005 and has been long overdue as the Commonwealth has been through a lot of development since with its once-prominent garment industry folded and federalization of customs and immigration being implemented.

Tinian Dynasty won't reopen tomorrow

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

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REPORTER

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino shut its doors last month and it will not be reopening tomorrow, April 15, as they had earlier announced to their employees and the public.

Saipan Tribune learned that the hotel, which suspended operations starting last March 5, isn't capable of opening tomorrow.

Tinian Dynasty is closed for about six weeks now due to "low occupancy" and lack of "charter groups."

Sources said, however, that the hotel is looking at opening temporarily for the San Jose Fiesta on April 29 to 30, which is expected to attract visitors—but it is not yet clear when it will—or if it will ever—return to normal operations.

Despite its earlier assurance to its employees that they will open this weekend as they will have "new charter groups coming in again" and that on

June, which is their peak season, that "business will be very promising," employees are still left in tenterhooks of what is going to happen.

Due to the uncertainty of the hotel's operation, Saipan Tribune learned that "a lot" of Dynasty's employees already resigned.

The hotel reportedly had 390 employees earlier this year.

In their March memorandum, a copy of which was obtained by Saipan Tribune, Dynasty stated that during the six weeks of suspension, "free rent will be extended to all employees who stay in the barracks" and that their canteen will "still be open to serve three meals a day for employees and their dependents."

It is not clear if this will still be extended to employees as they go beyond the six-week suspension.

Saipan Tribune also learned that while Tinian Dynasty has paid its 531 for-

mer and current employees their five months-worth of back wages—an amount of more than \$1.3 million—as was stated in the settlement

agreement administered by the CNMI Department of Labor, Dynasty has not yet paid them for the 25 percent in liquidated damages.

The damages amount to \$416,241.37 and was supposed to be paid last March 15, along with the second tranche of back wage payments.



DELTA DONATION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delta Air Lines recently donated two roundtrip tickets (one to the U.S. and one to Japan) as part of its support of the upcoming NMC Foundation Golf Tournament, which will be held on April 30, 2016. The tickets, along with other great items, will be used as prizes for the tournament. Photo shows, from left, Beverly Vincent, Delta Airlines; Mary Tenorio, NMC Foundation; Chris Concepcion (formerly with Delta Air Lines), May Ayuyu, NMC Foundation; James Glenn, NMC Foundation; and Beau Tomokane, Delta Air Lines, posing for a group photo during the turnover of the donation. For more information about the tournament, including registering or donating, visit www.marianas.edu.

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Navy flyer describes spotting island castaways

HONOLULU (AP)—It took several approaches and a smoke marker to convince three Pacific island castaways that a U.S. Navy crew had spotted their “help” sign three days after going missing at sea, a Navy officer in charge

of the rescue said late Monday.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. John Harkins told the Associated Press in a telephone interview Monday night that the three men, whose small skiff capsized in the remote Pacific ocean days earlier, continued to frantically

wave their orange life vests overhead as the sailors circled above in their aircraft.

“Initially they weren’t so sure that we had seen them,” Harkins said. “We made an effort to alleviate their concerns.”

The flight crew first rocked the aircraft’s wings, then made several low approaches before finally dropping a smoke marker in the water directly in front of the men.

“Eventually they actually started relaxing,” Harkins said. “We have a photo of all three of them laying down, some on top of the ‘help’ sign.”

The stranded men were reported missing last Tuesday after a wave overtook their skiff as they travelled about 140 miles from one Micronesian island to another, officials said.

The three spelled out the word “help” with palm fronds after they swam to the deserted island when their boat

capsized. “I’ve never seen anything like that, nor am I aware of anyone in our community seeing anything like that,” Harkins said.

The Navy crew, however, noticed heat from a signal fire, which had already gone out, before they actually saw the “help” sign on the beach, Harkins said.

BSI

From Page 1

turnover of \$2,264,537,440 for January.

The February figure was at \$1,949,003,420 and for March, it was \$1,887,244,900.

Together, these figures amount to \$6,100,785,760 and corroborates a GGRASIA report Tuesday that Imperial Pacific LLC had achieved a VIP rolling chip turnover of \$6.1 billion for the first quarter of 2016.

As for the amount of taxes paid out by the casino from gross gaming revenue, commission executive director Edward C. Deleon Guerrero could not share this data when asked, calling this “currently

confidential information.”

However, Guerrero added that he sent a letter to the Department of Finance and its Division of Tax and Revenue, copying the CNMI attorney general and the public auditor, “seeking guidance if this information could be released.”

He said he is still waiting response.

“We are clarifying with the attorney general and the public auditor whether we could release this to you, because if we could, we would release” the regular BGRT.

“I think people should know,” Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

Applying an industry formula, though, to project gross gaming revenue tax paid out, the casino is projected to pay

out some \$8.54 million in gross gaming revenue tax.

That industry standard formula takes this rolling chip volume times the “house share” average of .028 times the 5 percent, or the maximum amount of business gross revenue tax, and would project a tax pay out of \$8,541,100.064 for the first quarter of 2016 to the CNMI Treasury.

The average of this, or this amount divided by three, multiplied by 12, projects an annual tax payout of some \$34.164 million to the CNMI Treasury.

Expenses

Imperial Pacific—the parent company overseeing Best Sunshine and the real estate company Colour Palace,

among others—has also expended a total \$69.85 million for purchases of goods and services, in the first quarter 2016.

For January, this figure was at \$17,182,698.33.

For February, the grand total was \$15,988,124.29.

And for March, this jumped to \$36,679,434.88, for a total first quarter total of \$69,850,257.50.

The commission has split these expenses into six categories: administration, operations, marketing, food and beverage, building, improvements, and design, and others.

The “others” category includes taxes paid out, like the CNMI’s developer’s tax.

It also includes others ex-

penses titled “donation, education funding, and purchases and other fees.”

The others category amounted to 21 percent of total expenses, or some \$14.822 million for the first quarter.

The largest share of expenses went to “building, improvement’s and design” category at 58 percent, or some \$40.264 million for the first quarter.

The jump in expenses in March appears be largely contributed to the \$16.46 million paid in equipment purchases and steel construction paid out to a local construction company under the “building, improvement, and design” category.

Imperial Pacific is constructing a hotel casino in the heart of Garapan right now,

given that the defendant had no legal duty to assist David-Atalig with penal summons that the trial court acknowledged was invalid.

In the government’s opposition, Hasselback said the motion should be denied because Ogomoro has not demonstrated that this appeal “raises a substantial question of law or fact likely to result in reversal or an order for a new trial.”

Hasselback said the court should not delay the imposition of defendant’s sentence as he has not met his burden to demonstrate that his appeal raises the requisite “substantial question of law or face likely to result in reversal or appeal.”

He said Ogomoro offers nothing to overcome the presumption of sufficiency of the evidence adduced at trial.

Hasselback said Ogomoro relies upon vague contentions regarding sufficiency of evidence.

At best, Hasselback said, the defendant has offered a

“road map” of some of the issues he plans on raising on appeal, but this is not sufficient for this court to impose the stay that is sought.

Last January, a Superior Court jury rendered a unanimous verdict finding Ogomoro guilty of conspiracy to commit theft of services and theft of services pertaining to the same incident of shielding of then-attorney general Edward Buckingham.

Wiseman found Ogomoro guilty of seven of nine corruption charges for his role in the shielding of Buckingham from being served with penal summons in August 2012.

Wiseman found the defendant guilty of five counts of misconduct in public office, one count of obstructing justice: Interference with a law enforcement officer or witness, and one count of criminal coercion.

Last Jan, 30, Wiseman imposed a one-year prison term on Ogomoro plus other orders.

OGUMORO

From Page 1

discharged from the case.

According to Wiseman in an order issued on Monday, Ogomoro, through counsel Daniel Guidotti, filed a motion for stay pending appeal last Friday, April 8, at 4:22pm.

The defendant requested that the court schedule an expedited hearing on this matter for last Monday, April 11, at 1:30pm.

Wiseman said neither a declaration of service nor a supporting affidavit was attached to Ogomoro’s motion.

Wiseman, however, said there is no indication that Ogomoro’s motion was made on ex parte application basis.

Ex parte means an application to the court by one of the parties to the action without the other party being present/heard.

Wiseman cited that NMI Rules of Criminal Procedure

45(d) requires that a written motion be served, no later than five business days before the time specified for a hearing; unless the court schedules a different period.

He said here, Ogomoro has not shown good cause for expediting the matter to last Monday, April 11.

Nonetheless, the judge scheduled a hearing on this matter on an accelerated basis on the court’s normal criminal calendar, for yesterday, April 13, at 1:30pm.

Wiseman said the government must be given an opportunity to file an opposition memorandum of law to defendant’s motion.

Accordingly, the judge said, he will allow the government to file a brief on or before yesterday at noon.

Wiseman said to avoid any possible confusion, notwithstanding defendant’s motion for a stay and the court’s scheduling of a hearing in this matter, defendant’s reporting

date to DOC yesterday, April 13 on or before 8am, is not affected or altered.

In other words, Wiseman said, the filing of the motion and the court’s order scheduling a hearing, gives no effect to the requested stay or to the court order for defendant to report as stayed in the sentencing order of April 1.

“Said sentencing remains in effect,” the judge pointed out.

At yesterday’s hearing, Guidotti argued Ogomoro’s motion. Hasselback argued the government’s opposition.

Ogomoro, 57, also appeared in court escorted by corrections officers.

Guidotti asked the court to give special attention to the fact that Ogomoro will likely serve his entire sentence of imprisonment before the date on which the CNMI Supreme Court decides his appeal.

Guidotti said based on his experience, it would take the high court 18 to 36 months to rule on an appeal.

addressed the concerns raised by Earthjustice and CBD in their notice letter,” Joint Region Marianas said in a statement to *Saipan Tribune*.

PaganWatch co-founder Peter Perez on Tuesday that the groups were “in talks with the Navy to determine whether the Navy is taking the necessary steps to comply” with the ESA, and Earthjustice also said the Navy had provided the promised information, which they were reviewing.

“We would be pleased if our notice letter prodded the Navy into complying with its

obligations under the ESA, but are not yet in a position to say whether or not it has. If the Navy does not take the necessary steps to comply with its duty to protect the newly listed species, we intend to take the Navy to court,” Perez told *Saipan Tribune* on Tuesday.

In the February letter, Earthjustice attorney David Henkin said the Navy and the Service had violated and remains in ongoing violation of the ESA, arguing that the newly listed species should have reinitiated consultation between the Service and Navy.

The Service ruled that the MITT project opened up “every island” within the Marianas as a “potential training site,” which could lead to “negative impacts to any number” of the newly listed 23 species under the ESA.

The project’s training increases in Guam, Rota, Saipan, Tinian, Pagan, and increased bombing of Farallon de Medinilla promised “likely negative impacts” of direct damage to species from live-fire or ordnance training, wildfire, trampling, and spread of nonnative species, the Service said.

Quoting this ruling, Henkin said in February that the new rule made clear that the Navy training might affect the newly listed species—“triggering the obligation to reinitiate consultation.”

Last August, the Navy gave the go-ahead on the MITT project, to replace a smaller scale one approved five years ago.

Among undersea sonar training, the Navy approved strike, amphibious, anti-surface, electronic, anti-submarine, and mine warfare, among others.

It approved use of F-35 joint strike fighter aircraft, aircraft carrier, destroyer class vessel, and amphibious combat vehicles and unmanned vehicle and aerial systems.

This is inclusive of numerous rocket and projectile munitions and “kinetic energy weapons” or rail guns that use energy to accelerate projectiles to supersonic levels, according to decision-making documents.

The Navy also approved state-of-the-art high-frequency sonar systems to be operated from Navy vessels.

NAVY

From Page 1

The Navy said yesterday that they responded by providing Earthjustice and CBD with information they did not have: “specifically, that Navy had reinitiated consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in accordance with the 2015 Biological Opinion, to ensure that Navy’s training activities remain fully compliant with all relevant provision of the ESA.”

“The Navy believes it has

Traders joins growing list of MMAC sponsors

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Traders Insurance has joined a growing list of businesses and individuals that have thrown their support to the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer. The annual event is set on May 13 and 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds in Chalan Piao.

Traders Insurance manager Ernesto Licop led the check presentation to MMAC officials and staff of the Commonwealth Cancer Association yesterday morning in their new office in Chalan Kanoa.

Licop said Traders Insurance has been a strong supporter of the MMAC and the advocacy it promotes to the community. It is also their company's way of showing their support to cancer patients and their families.

"We have been supporting MMAC for many years and we will continue to do this to show our support to all unfortunate people who are suffering from this dreadful disease," said Licop. "We are looking forward to see more companies join MMAC every year."

Krizia Mendoza, the eldest daughter of owners Lito and Malou Mendoza, was also present along with their person-

nel Jenny Ariar, Ricky Castro, Ferdinand Javellonar, and Chona Laguador. Krizia remains a member of the MMAC committee after serving as overall vice chair last year.

"We are always excited to contribute to such a worthy cause. MMAC is a once-a-year event that the whole community should take part of. We hope to see everyone at this year's event," said Malou Mendoza.

Licop said their donation is also their way of giving back to the community that has supported and helped Traders Insurance grow through the years.

"We like to express our heartfelt thank you to all our clients who continue to support us for many years. Thank you also to all our hardworking staff for our success and for having the opportunity to share their blessings for a good cause," Licop added.

Traders Insurance donated \$1,000 to join Tan Holdings, Delta Airlines, Dr. Ignacio Dela Cruz and family, Triple J, the Saipan Mayors Office, IT&E, Joeten Dai Dai Charitable Foundation, and *Marianas Variety* that had thrown their support to MMAC.

Tan Holdings had teamed up with Kagman High School, JDCF with Marianas High School, and IT&E with Saipan

Southern High School. They along with the other teams are doing their own fundraising activities where proceeds would go the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Geri Dela Cruz is this year's overall chair with Chris Concepcion as vice chair. Emanuel P. Borja, Ashley Benavente, Daniel Brown, Matthew Deleon Guerrero, Carol Hosono, Nola Hix, Jackie Che, Catherine Attao-Toves, Tara White, Bobby Cruz, Mark Sonoda, Jenypp Sambile, Diana I. Benavente, Janine Nogis, and Ricky Itibus are the committee members.



JON PEREZ

Traders Insurance personnel join committee members of the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer in yesterday's check presentation at their new office in Chalan Kanoa.

MMAC teams beef up fundraising efforts

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sponsors and teams supporting the Marianas March Against Cancer is beefing up their efforts to raise funds for the cause.

Team Tan Holdings-Kagman High School is doing a fundraiser by currently selling T-shirts and polo shirts with a uniquely designed "Just Beat It" logo in front.

These are sold for only \$15 each and each purchase entitles the buyer to a raffle ticket with a chance to win a roundtrip ticket to Manila, Philippines via Philippine Airlines.

Raffle tickets can also be bought separately for only \$5 each.

"We are excited about Team Tan Holdings/Kagman High Schools fundraising activity which gives one lucky winner a chance to win a roundtrip ticket to Manila on Philippine Airlines. This is a great opportunity for our community to support the fight against cancer and win a fabulous prize at the same time," MMAC overall committee chair Geri C. Dela Cruz said.

Triple J, on the other hand, has announced that they will be donating a portion of their revenue received at some of their business affiliates on

Saipan to the 2016 MMAC.

"We are thrilled with these fundraising activities initiated by Team Triple J. They are a new team this year so we extend our gratitude to the Triple J group of companies for their support in the battle against cancer," Dela Cruz said.

Hertz and Triple J Motors have committed to donating a portion of their proceeds from vehicle and car rental sales to the MMAC.

Likewise, for every iced tea ordered at Tony Roma's and Capricciosa in Garapan and Truong's Restaurant in Susupe, \$1 will be donated to MMAC.

Those who wish to support Team Tan Holdings-KHS may reach out to Raymond Zapanta at 235-0560 (extension 117) and raymond_zapanta@tanholdings.com or Leila Staffler at leila.staffler@cnmipss.org.

For more information on Team Triple J, team captain Iliana Pacheco may be reached at marketing@triplejsaipan.com.

The MMAC, the signature fundraising event of the Commonwealth Cancer Association, will be held May 13-14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

For more information on MMAC, email Dela Cruz at geri.delacruz2@gmail.com or call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or visit www.ccamarianas.org.

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5PM – 9PM

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Presents



Denise M. Mendiola
Senior Business Advisor and Program Coordinator
Bank of Guam Women in Business Program
UOG-Small Business Development Center

FREE

Saipan: "How to Write a Business Plan"

April 18, 2016 (Monday)

10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Northern Marianas College, Room D1

This seminar will cover all of the elements to be included in a business plan, & explain with examples what is required in each section. The focus of the seminar will be the three M's— Money, Management & Marketing. Participants will also be provided with a sample business plan, sources of industry research information, and introduced to online business planning tools that are accessible at any time through an internet-enabled PC.

Saipan: "How to Prepare a Marketing Plan"

April 19, 2016 (Tuesday)

9:00 am - 11:30 am

Northern Marianas College, Room D1

If you have attended other SBDC marketing courses, you will have learned the importance of market research, target markets, positioning, and your marketing message. You may also be considering implementing elements of the guerilla marketing approach into your marketing program. This workshop builds on these approaches, and provides you with a step-by-step guide to preparing a formal marketing plan. Depending on the nature and size of your business, your marketing plan could be complex and detailed, or very simple and straightforward. But unless you have a formal marketing plan of some kind, it will be very difficult for you to implement a marketing strategy that is both consistent and focused.

Register by contacting the Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3018
or register online PISBDCN.ECENTERDIRECT.COM/EVENTS

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Ex-convict gets 10 months for violating his probation

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday imposed the full maximum 10 months of his suspended sentence against an ex-convict for violating the terms and conditions of his probation.

Camacho ordered 25-year-old James Anthony Palacios Webb to serve the 10 months day for day without the possibility of parole.

Webb was given credit for time served.

The defendant pleaded guilty to the offense of violating the terms and conditions of his probation.

Webb also pleaded guilty yesterday to the offense of theft in a separate case. The sentencing in this case will be on May 4, 2016.

Webb was remanded to the Department of Corrections.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, between Dec. 4 and 15, 2015 on Saipan, Webb stole approximately \$1,352.68 in hotel services, food items, cigarettes,

miscellaneous store items, and U.S. currency, from Paradise Hotel, Twins Market in Dandan, and San Roque Market.

Webb violated the terms and conditions of his probation in his prior conviction by failing to obey all CNMI laws by committing the offense of theft.

Camacho said the \$94.21 in restitution to Shell Highway Express in Gualo Rai as ordered in the previous conviction shall be converted to a civil judgment because he is serving the full maximum sentence of 10 months and there are no suspended sentence.

Camacho said Webb shall pay \$517.43 in restitution to San Roque Market, \$539.25 in restitution to Twins Market in Dandan, and \$292 in restitution to Paradise Hotel in Garapan. He said these restitutions are part of the theft case, in which the sentencing will be on May 4, 2016.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared counsel for the government. Assistant public defender

Tillman Clark served as defense counsel.

Police arrested Webb last December for allegedly checking in at Paradise Hotel using a forged check in the amount of \$319.25.

Police said Webb admitted to receiving several blank checks from Summer Holiday Hotel and writing at least seven checks amounting to over \$400 at different stores on Saipan.

The Office of the Attorney General originally charged Webb with one count of theft and three counts of forgery.

The OAG subsequently amended the information to charge the defendant with only one count of theft.

Webb was previously convicted for stealing credit card of the KZNM/KCMI radio station and purchasing gas and other items in the amount of \$94.21 at the Shell Highway Express in Gualo Rai. In April 2015, he was slapped with a two-month prison term. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

AMP Visitor Center closed on April 25

The public is advised the American Memorial Park Visitor Center will be closed on Monday, April 25, 2016, due to

mandatory training for all park personnel. The Visitor Center will resume normal hours of operations on Tuesday, April

26, 2016, at 9am.

For more information on the park please visit: www.nps.gov/amme. (PR)



Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp



Frances A. Castro
Director

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

for the
PROPOSED TINIAN HARBOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
and
ROTA WEST HARBOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Division of Coastal Resources Management of the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) is soliciting for comments from the general public for the proposed improvements of the Tinian and Rota harbors. Feedback for the initial scoping of the Tinian and Rota Harbor Improvement projects is being collected through April 15, 2016.

Please fill out the Rota survey by visiting this link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RTJX62S>

Please fill out the Tinian survey by visiting this link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RXY5FTF>
OR

Visit our website at www.crm.gov.mp

Thank you for your feedback.

/s/ FRANCES A. CASTRO
Director, DCRM



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS for the CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES for the CONSTRUCTION OF THE TINIAN MUNICIPAL TRANSFER STATION RFQ16-GOV-090

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provide Construction Management (CM) Services for the Construction of the Tinian Municipal Transfer Station.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The Construction Plan and the complete Scope of Work for the CM Service are available at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. The construction plan is available for review only at the CIP Office. A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on April 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the CIP Office. Questions regarding this RFQ must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia, Project Manager no later than 2:00 p.m. on April 19, 2016. Questions must be sent to fax no. (670) 664-2408 and emailed to esb.cip@gmail.com.

Statements of professional qualification from interested firms must address, and will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Overall construction management experience in the Western Pacific Region, and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (15%)
- Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope (25%)
- Key personnel's professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services. Indicate the proposed project engineer for this project, his/her professional integrity and competence and his/her knowledge in construction management for buildings and infrastructures. (25%)
- Past performance on similar projects, including cost control, ability to meet schedules, and quality of completed construction. (25%)
- Current workload and demonstrated ability to perform the project Scope of Work (10%)
- Fee (0%) - Proposed fee must be based on a 10 months project schedule.

To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and must hold a Certificate of Authorization, if applicable. Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office for budgeting purposes, but will not be considered in the Firm evaluation scores.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330 or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "RFQ16-GOV-090", Construction Management Services for the Construction of the Tinian Municipal Transfer Station. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m., on April 27, 2016. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, on April 27, 2016 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 27, 2016, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST on May 6, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Ralph DLG. Torres,
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan,
Director of Procurement & Supply

Suspected car burglar arrested with help of surveillance camera

A surveillance camera led to the identification and arrest of a man shortly after he allegedly burglarized a car from customers of Joeten Superstore in San Jose on Monday afternoon.

Jeffrey B. Manalo, 35, was arrested for burglary, theft, and resisting arrest.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a \$15,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for April 20 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Manalo. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Police Detective Jesus K. Wabol stated in his report that an Asian male, his wife, and son went shopping at Joeten Super-

store on Monday at 2:30pm.

Wabol said when the three were done shopping they went back to their car and noticed that their \$20 in coins were missing from a plastic cup along with GentleMonster sunglasses worth \$300.

The family went back inside the store to get assistance. The store's manager told the family to call the police while she contacted their surveillance team to review their cameras.

The surveillance team later called the manager and told her that the suspect, who was wearing a yellow T-shirt and khaki short pants, was still within the store's vicinity.

Police Officer Rudolfo Hermosilla responded to the store, where he met the supervisor and gave him the suspect's descriptions.

Hermosilla approached the suspect who was near the front portion of the store. The suspect, who was later identified as Manalo, tried to run away, but the alert officer with the help of the supervisor managed to hold him.

Manalo struggled, but Police Officer Jason Tarkong also came and assisted in placing him in handcuffs.

One of the victims approached Hermosilla and pointed to Manalo's pocket, where among the stolen items were placed.

Tarkong padded down Manalo's pockets and recovered a sunglass case and cigarettes.

Hermosilla reviewed the surveillance camera's footage, showing how Manalo broke into the victims' car. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Military training at FDM, W-517 set

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (N3) Guam, would like to inform the general public that the U.S. military

unit will be conducting military exercises at Farallon de Mendenilla and Area W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam. The schedule dates and time are as followed:

Date	Time	Location	Unit/Training
Apr 19-21, 2016	1am-7am	FDM	69 EBS/Military Training
Apr 18-20, 2016	12pm-10pm	W - 517	HSC-25/Military Training

The general location of this activity will be at Farallon de Mendenilla on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants and at Area W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam comprising southwest into International waters.

Due to the danger imposed by these activities, acting governor Victor B. Hocog is strongly advising the general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and dates indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-Dispatch Center at 237-8000, VHF MARINE CHNL16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. *(PR)*

SAVE THE DATE



Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament

When: Show Time: 6:30 A.M.
Shotgun Start: 7:30 A.M.

Where: Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort East Course

Why: In Support of the Marianas Tourism Educational Council

Entry Fee: \$100 – Includes Green Fee, Cart on course, Refreshments and Award Banquet.

Format: Men's & Ladies Double Peroria
USGA & Local Rules of Play Apply

Flights: Championship (HDCP 0-5)
A Flight (HDCP 6-10)
B Flight (HDCP 11-16)
C Flight (HDCP 17+)
Ladies
Senior (Age 55+)

Players Prizes

1st Place - \$300.00 • 2nd Place - \$200.00 • 3rd Place - \$100.00
Prizes apply to all Flights

Hole Prizes

Longest Drive • Closes to the Pin • Hole-In-One

Other Prizes: Awards Banquet Raffle Drawing
Payment: Cash, Credit Cards and Checks Accepted
Checks to be made payable to MTEC
Entry forms available and payments accepted at MVA



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The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of 4.99% will apply to new, approved personal loan applications received 3/1/16 to 4/30/16 with a principal amount of \$10,050.00 and a term of 12 months. Loans with other principal amounts (\$2,500 minimum loan amount) and terms are available, but the promotional APR may differ. The interest rate will be 0.25 percentage point lower if you have a personal Priority Banking Checking Account Level 1 or 2 and 0.35 percentage point lower if you have personal Priority Banking Checking Account Level 3. A one-time documentation preparation fee of \$50.00 applies to all loans under this promotion and will be added to the principal balance. For a 12-month loan of \$10,050 at 4.99% APR, you will have 12 monthly payments of \$856.05, which includes principal and interest. Offer subject to credit approval. This offer does not apply to business or real estate loans. Also, the proceeds of the loan cannot be used to pay off any existing First Hawaiian Bank credit cards, personal loans or lines-of-credit.
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IN CASE OF MAN WHO STAGED 3-HOUR DRAMA AT FENG HUA STORE

Judge slaps defendant with 3-year prison term

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday imposed a three-year prison term against Alfred Jacob Teregeyo Kaipat, who grabbed two machetes from Feng Hua Store in San Jose, threatened to kill his wife, barricaded himself on the third floor of the store's building, before surrendering himself to police after three hours.

Kaipat, 31, signed a plea deal with the government and pleaded guilty to two counts of violation of protective order and a count of theft.

Camacho accepted Kaipat's guilty plea and the plea agreement.

Camacho said the first year of imprisonment is to be served day for day without the possibility of parole, while Kaipat shall be eligible for parole for the second year of the sentence.

Camacho explained that when a defendant is given probation, he is automatically released from the Department of Corrections upon completion of his sentence.

The judge said when a defendant is eligible for parole he is not automatically released from DOC as he must first apply to the Board of Parole.

Camacho said by imposing parole instead of probation, the court fashions a sentence scheme that will allow the victim, Yanyou Kaipat, to appear before the Board of Parole and renew her concerns.

In effect, Camacho said, Alfred Kaipat will not be released automatically after serving one year but must prove that he is in good behavior and complying with other conditions before he can be released by the Board of Parole, and then he is supervised by parole officers.

The judge said the remainder of the sentence, which is the last year, is suspended and may be imposed in whole or in part for violation of law or Office of the Adult Probation rules.

Camacho said the CNMI Supreme Court has ruled that a suspended sentence is required in order to impose fines, community work service, counseling and restitution.

Camacho said without a suspended sentence, the law does not allow the court to impose fines, community work service, anger management counseling, or restitution.

Camacho said that is why a portion of Kaipat's sentence is suspended so that he can attend counseling, pay fines, do community work service, and pay restitution.

After serving the prison term, Kaipat will be placed on supervised probation for two years. He was required to pay a \$100 fine, \$25 in court costs, and \$200 in probation fee.

The defendant was ordered to perform 100 hours of community work service and complete anger management and any other recommended counseling by the Community Guidance Center.

During the entire probationary period, Kaipat is prohibited from possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages or controlled substances.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on July 25, 2015 on Saipan, Kaipat went to Yanyou Kaipat's store in Dandan, made contact

with her, then called her on her phone several hours later, while a court's protective order prohibiting him from doing so was in place. On that day, he also stole two machetes from Feng Hua Store.

Camacho said the defendant and his wife were having marital problems.

The defendant stole two machetes, placed them to his neck as if to kill himself. The wife was not present during the drama.

The defendant did not make any threatening move to endanger police officers or the public.

"In effect, defendant was holding himself hostage. The

only person in danger of injury was defendant himself," Camacho said.

Defendant Kaipat has no prior arrest or conviction.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark served as counsel for the defendant. Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen appeared for the government.

Borja wants to raise awareness for disabled people



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rotary Club of Saipan president Curtis Dancoe, right, vice president Brian Clayton, left, and treasurer Tom Thornburgh, second right, join new members Shamika Ratwatte, second left, and Greg Borja in last Tuesday's meeting at the Giovanni's restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Greg Borja is hoping to raise awareness on the plight of disabled people and he sees the Rotary Club of Saipan would help him with his advocacy.

He and Shamika J. Ratwatte, an assurance manager at Ernst & Young, were inducted to the local Rotary Club last Tuesday at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's

restaurant.

"I want to reach out to others to support our campaign of raising awareness about people with disabilities," said Borja, a project specialist with the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc.

"This is one of the reasons why I joined the Rotary. I like their mission and the service that they do to the community. They give back to the commu-

nity with various projects."

His everyday work is spent mostly dealing with people with autism, but he has also attended to patients at the hospital and with individuals at the corrections.

He said that his friend, Rotary Club treasurer Tom Thornburgh, has been asking him to join the club for close to three years.

"He's been asking me, bugging me every year. Finally, I

caved in," Borja said with a laugh. "Now I'm a proud member of the Rotary."

He also volunteers with the Independent Football Club that educates them on how to better take care of the environment and going up against underage drinking to all teenagers.

"We also work with kids since our club focuses also on youth development. We also have a lot of projects and we usually do beach cleanups."

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 14, 2000

Economic difficulties hinder \$60M bond float

Economic difficulties and higher prevailing interest rates are obstructing the prompt flotation of the tax-exempt \$60 million municipal bond, which drag the completion of major infrastructure projects in the Northern Marianas. Development Authority Board Chair John S. Tenorio said the government had to postpone the flotation of the municipal bond from March to June 2000 due to the higher interest rate prevailing in the U.S. market. Mr. Tenorio said interest rates normally increase by 30 basis points or by one percent during the March-May period, adding that floating the \$60 million bond this time would only stress the Commonwealth's depleting coffers. The CIP Task Force earlier completed the seven-year spending plan for \$154 million in new capital infrastructure projects.

DOF moves deadline for tax filing

The Revenue and Taxation Division is giving Northern Marianas taxpayers more time to prepare their income tax returns by moving the deadline for the filing of the 1999 ITRs to April 17, 2000, the finance department disclosed yesterday. The Department of Finance normally moves the last day of filing ITRs to the next working day when the deadline falls on a weekend. In this year's case, April 15 fell on a Saturday. Finance officials said taxation windows will be open until midnight of April 17

in order to accommodate more CNMI taxpayers who are anticipated to swamp the Revenues and Taxation Division office on the deadline date.

April 14, 2005

Raid nets more pot

CNMI and federal operatives raided another marijuana farm on Saipan, seizing some \$300,000 worth of cannabis plants, the Department of Public Safety said yesterday. On Wednesday morning, law enforcers discovered the marijuana farm in Talafofo, a village near the seat of government on Capitol Hill, after receiving tips from the community, according to DPS spokesman Eric David. The raid is the third in about a week by the CNMI-Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, which included the DPS' Special Investigation Section. Task force operatives raided the farm at about 10am and seized about 60 marijuana plants, which ranged in height from 3 to 13 feet. Marijuana, colloquially known as "pot," has become one of the commonly abused substance in the CNMI. Each marijuana stick has a street value of about \$5.

PSS buses give all out support for arts fest

Public School System associate commissioner David M. Borja said at least two of its nine school buses are going to be used during the Flame Tree Arts Festival this weekend. He said the festival committee sought Education's assistance by lending its buses to help bring guests to the festival venue and to their respective hotels. Borja said that PSS immediately agreed since they have been participating in this grand event by providing the buses to some visitors. The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs would shoulder the cost of fuel during the entire operations. The Community and Cultural Affairs office

would also have to take the responsibility of paying the bus drivers' overtime pay, said Borja.

April 14, 2008

Federalization bill should reduce uncertainty in NMI

A vocal advocate of federalization says the passage of the federalization bill is a relief for many and should reduce the general uncertainty in the CNMI.

"But the time for work has not ended, but has just begun," Ron Hodges told Saipan Tribune in an e-mail. While federalization lays the framework for protections for guest workers, Hodges, a teacher, said that change is historically slow. "I think those alive five, 10, and 20 years from now will live in a better place," he said. Hodges said that now is the time to offer guest workers security, with an interim bill that protects everyone from deportation.

Local farmers to take part in Agri-Census

The Department of Land and Natural Resources said that about 175 farmers in the CNMI will be participating in the 2008 Agricultural Census, which will cover data for the 2007 calendar year. Central Statistics Division director Jose Liwanag said that anybody earning \$1,000 or over from their farms, plant nurseries or livestock are subject to the 2008 Agricultural Census, which is scheduled to start before the end of April. "The Census is in English and we understand that we have non-English speaking farmers. We have plans to hire somebody who can speak Chinese, who will help translate the Census for our Chinese farmers," Liwanag said. He added that necessary documents to conduct the 2008 Agricultural Census are finally being processed at the Office of Personal Management and the Department of Finance.

2016 Area Maritime Security Training exercise kicks off

A Functional Exercise testing maritime stakeholder response capabilities to a disruption of the maritime transportation system is underway at the Homeland Security Emergency Operations Center on Capitol Hill. The purpose of the exercise is to enable hands-on decisions and actions regarding security, recovery and salvage plans for a security incident that results in a port closure.

Exercise Scenario—At 9am, on April 13, 2016, watch standers at U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam received notification of an explosion in

Tanapag Harbor, Saipan. The blast occurred aboard a cargo vessel carrying containers filled with general cargo and some limited quantities of hazardous materials.

First responders are on scene and securing the area on shore and around the vessel. Notifications have been made to all port stakeholders and responders with jurisdiction for this event.

The Unified Command, which help stage the exercise, includes the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Ship

Management Company Representatives, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Multiple resources from local, regional and federal agencies are participating in order to validate and update response plans, capture lessons learned and best practices. These types of exercises are run annually and are a multi-agency response to a Transportation Security Incident (TSI). Command and control coordination, mitigation of port closure and reestablishing commerce in a safe and timely manner will be tested. **(PR)**

AG's Cup Speech Competition on May 6

The Office of the Attorney General is pleased to announce that the 32nd Annual Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition will be held on May 6, 2016, at 9am at the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom.

"The AG's Cup provides our high schools with the opportunity to research an issue that affects the Commonwealth, form a position on the issue, and showcase their voice and passion for his or her position on the topic," said Attorney General Edward Manibusan.

This year, seven high schools will be participating: Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Mt. Carmel School, Grace Christian Academy, Marianas Baptist Academy, Dr. Rita H. Inos High School, and Northern Marianas Academy.

This year's topic focuses on the right to bear arms in the CNMI. The issue presented is: (1) Should the CNMI per-

mit individuals to carry handguns on their person in public? If the answer is yes, argue whether individuals should be required to conceal the handgun, whether individuals should be required to carry the handgun open and in plain sight, or whether individuals should be permitted to choose whether to conceal or openly carry the handgun. In addition, outline any restrictions you

would impose on individuals seeking to carry handguns in public; (2) If your answer is no, should the CNMI permit individuals to carry handguns on their person in public, please provide argument in defense of this position. The Office of the Attorney General welcomes the public to attend the speech competition and support the students of the CNMI. **(PR)**

NOTICE



That Mr. Hari Bhujel is no longer connected with Marianas Security Corporation as of April 7, 2016. Any transaction made and entered after April 7, 2016 will not be honored.

Thank you by Management.

Saipan Tribune becomes SCfA's primary sponsor

The *Saipan Tribune* became a primary sponsor of Saipan Cares for Animals donating a \$500 check yesterday that would support the volunteer group's various programs.

"We are so thankful to the *Tribune* for all they have done for us," said SCfA's Jason Hudy. "For almost a year now the *Tribune* has always made space in their paper to run stories about our animal efforts."

"I have no doubt that countless dogs and cats have found new and loving homes specifically because people read about it in the *Tribune*. And

now, they help us out with a monetary donation as well.

Hudy added they would use the money to buy medical supplies for the dogs and cats at the shelter.

The Animal Shelter, which is under the Saipan Mayor's Office of Mayor David M. Apatang, is temporarily using the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' quarantine facility in As Perdido.

The shelter and the SCfA volunteers moved there after the facility at Lower Base had to close down last March 31 due to the extensive damage it

incurred in Typhoon Soudelor.

For more information, visit SaipanCaresforAnimals.com or their Facebook Fan Page Saipan Cares for Animals to learn more about the group's efforts, or to inquire about adopting a dog or cat or volunteering with the animals.

"Volunteers are always welcome, and the new shelter area is a beautiful place to take a dog for a walk" said Beth Pliscou, newly elected president of Saipan Cares for Animals. "And thank you to the *Tribune* for all their support." **(PR)**

Marilyn and John Borja
P.O. Box 7251 SVRB
288-5944 (H) / 989-3520/
989-0413

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of : FCD-AD
The Adoption Of: : CIVIL
J.T.K. - 06-02-2006 : ACTION NO.
J.J.T.K. - 09-20-2011 : 16-0117
Minor Child :
: NOTICE

By: : OF
Marilyn K. Borja and : HEARING
John Juan M. Borja :
Petitioner(s) :
:

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 25th day of April 2016 at 1:30 pm in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Govendo.

Dated this 29th day of March, 2016.

/s/
Patrick V. Diaz
Deputy Clerk of Court



NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for Castle Project (CNMI), LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Castle Project (CNMI), LLC has proposed to amend its Conditional Use Permit to renovate and utilize an additional existing warehouse structure (Building E) formerly used by Top Fashion Factory for employee quarters. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Tanapag on lots 030 B 15, 030 B 13, and 030 B 18. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: April 28th, 2016, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Wednesday, April 27, 2016 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman



Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Board Conference Room 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 03/31/16 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings

Conditional Use Application #2016-0342: We Go Corporation is proposing to operate a restaurant with barbeque facilities in Ladder Beach. This use is classified as "Restaurant General" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on lot #051 L 01 next to the beach area and it is zoned as Public Resource.

Conditional Use Application #2016-1235 (Amendment): ITS Corporation is proposing to amend its previous Conditional Use Permit for "Vehicle Repair, General" to include additional structures for repair and employee quarters. This project is located on TR 22703-8 and TR 22597-3 in Chalan Laulau, Middle Road, north of the Quartermaster traffic light. These lots are zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Conditional Use Application #2016-1360 (Amendment): Castle Project (CNMI), LLC has proposed to amend its Conditional Use Permit to renovate and utilize an additional existing warehouse structure (Building E) formerly used by Top Fashion Factory for employee quarters. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Tanapag on lots 030 B 15, 030 B 13, and 030 B 18. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

C. Communications

D. Old Business

1. None

E. New Business

1. Office Operations Reports (Permits, Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman



NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for ITS Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. ITS Corporation is proposing to amend its previous Conditional Use Permit for "Vehicle Repair, General" to include additional structures for repair and employee quarters. This project is located on TR 22703-8 and TR 22597-3 in Chalan Laulau, Middle Road, north of the Quartermaster traffic light. These lots are zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: April 28th, 2016, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Wednesday, April 27, 2016 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman



NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for We Go Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. We Go Corporation is proposing to operate a restaurant with barbeque facilities in Ladder Beach. This use is classified as "Restaurant, General" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on lot #051 L 01 next to the beach area and it is zoned as Public Resource.

Date: April 28th, 2016, Thursday
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Wednesday, April 27, 2016 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

EU mitigates migration crisis, but war drives it

It is hard to argue that the issue of how to deal with the ongoing wave of migration from the east into Europe isn't the biggest problem facing the European Union. It is thus a source of cautious optimism that the controversial measures the EU more or less agreed upon to deal with the problem seem to be beginning to work.

Arrivals in Greece, the first EU stop of the migrants, have seen a steady drop since January. This is a particularly interesting development since it is counterintuitive. The fear was that with the milder weather and calmer seas of spring would come an increase rather than a decrease in the flow of migrants.

The migrants come from war-torn, economically underdeveloped countries to the east and south of Europe. These include Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Pakistan, Somalia, Syria and Yemen, all targets of continuing American military action. Their normal route is to pass by sea from Turkey or Libya into Greece or Italy. Greece is probably the EU country least able to absorb them in economic terms.

It is also difficult to sort out the difference between refugees, truly in danger at home, and economic migrants, looking for a better life in richer Europe. The EU worked out a complicated procedure by which true refugees are accepted in EU states in return for economic migrants who are repatriated to Turkey, marked to return to their countries of origin by the Turks.

It appears that the actual agreed-upon procedure is working. The returnees, presumably, are carrying the message back to those considering the risky sea journey that it isn't worth the money or the danger to their lives. Those sent back will of course be disappointed and frustrated and may try again.

The other, and deserving, losers in the new procedure, if it works, are the traffickers. They have been making big money transporting migrant families across the Aegean and Mediterranean seas in inadequate boats with horrendous loss of life.

It may seem hard to deny a better life to unsuccessful migrants, but the justice of a measured flow into Europe cannot be denied. The end of the wars in their home countries that prompt and force them to leave is the only real solution to the migrant problem and deserves intense, continuing work.

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Rivals should be in cahoots to stump Trump

Donald Trump is getting some unlikely assistance from his opponents in his uphill effort to win a majority of Republican presidential delegates. Ted Cruz and John Kasich remain too busy battling each other to unite in opposition to the front-runner.

Cruz and Kasich have the same goal: to prevent Trump from getting close to the 1,237 delegates he needs for the nomination. Yet in remaining contests in New York, California, New Jersey and elsewhere, the battle between the two of them sets back that effort.

Instead they could be colluding — that's perfectly legal — effectively dividing up some states, playing to their respective strengths.

Take New York, which has its primary next Tuesday with 95 delegates at stake. Under the Republican rules, if Trump wins over 50 percent of the statewide vote he gets all 11 at-large delegates. Additionally, majorities in any of the 27 congressional districts would give him all three of that district's delegates.

He's being challenged in some places by Kasich, the governor of Ohio. If, as Cruz has demanded, Kasich dropped out, it would ensure a Trump sweep in New York.

If Cruz and Kasich were to focus their time and resources in different venues — the Texas senator in more conservative up-state districts and the Ohioan in several New York City and in suburban districts — they would have a better shot at denying the front-runner half the votes in a number of districts. Trump almost certainly will win a majority of New York's delegates, but the difference between, say, 85 and 60 could matter a lot in his quest for 1,237.

Similar allocation formulas apply the following week in Connecticut and Maryland, where polls show Trump ahead. Kasich could challenge him more effectively in some suburban areas and Cruz in regions where there are more Christian conservatives.

In a number of districts, and in states like Indiana, where all three Republican contenders have strengths, Kasich and Cruz

By ALBERT R. HUNT
Bloomberg View

Albert R. Hunt is a Bloomberg View columnist. Readers may send him email at ahunt1@bloomberg.net.



have to compete against each other.

But the final primary day, June 7, underscores the potential advantages of cooperation between the two Trump challengers. California elects 172 delegates, most by winner-take-all vote in each of the 53 congressional districts; New Jersey picks 51, all awarded to the winner of the statewide vote.

A smart challenger strategy would look like this: Kasich would make a concerted effort in a dozen or so California districts, mainly in the northern part of the state; Cruz would wage a major fight against Trump in most of the others.

In New Jersey, Kasich is best positioned to take on Trump and his chief supporter, Gov. Chris Christie. Kasich's technocratic centrism fits the profile of a good New Jersey candidate, and he has a gubernatorial record demonstrably better than that of Christie, whose hapless presidential run cost him popularity in his home state. In a three-way Garden State race, however, few doubt that Trump would prevail.

But in the past several weeks, Trump's rivals have been throwing as many punches at each other as at Trump. Cruz's strategy has been to get to a one-on-one contest with Trump, while Kasich's has been to win late primaries to demonstrate electability in hopes of being chosen at a deadlocked convention in Cleveland in July.

These plans have been overtaken by events; sticking to them helps Trump.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Democrats are headed off their own cliff

Political observers—yes, including myself—have argued for years that the Republican Party has moved too far right, allowing its most ideological elements to limit its legislative options, prevent it from addressing national problems, and damage its appeal to key swing and emerging voter groups.

But instead of Democrats responding by positioning themselves in the political center where they could maximize their appeal, many Democrats are embracing their own version of ideological extremism.

Bernie Sanders' uncompromising anti-business rhetoric and agenda, combined with the energy of "progressive" forces in the Democratic coalition, reflect a significant turn to the left by a party that once stood for pragmatic change, not "revolution."

Though the Vermont senator's supporters won't like to hear it, Sanders has plenty in common with both Donald Trump and Ted Cruz.

Like Cruz, Sanders is an ideologue who resists compromise. And like Trump, Sanders has simple answers to complex problems and sounds as if he doesn't appreciate the dramatic, and often deeply unsettling, consequences that his policies would produce.

"Break up the banks," roars Sanders, as if that would solve part of the nation's economic problems without creating any new ones.

"It's Time to Make College Tuition Free and Debt Free" asserts Sanders (on his website), without discussing the ramifications of doing so or acknowledging the true cost or the inevitable disruptions.

Anyone interested in the ramifications of some of Sanders' proposals — and why it would be difficult to try to turn the United States into Denmark — should read Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Steven Pearlstein's excellent piece, "What Bernie Sanders Would do to America," in The Washington Post. Pearlstein, who once worked for Massachusetts Democratic Rep. Michael Harrington, dissects many of Sanders' proposals.

Trump bases his wild assertions that he'll destroy the Islamic State quickly, get Mexico to build (and pay for) a wall and produce economic growth on his self-proclaimed smarts and the force of his personality. Sanders bases his promises of prosperity and justice for all on an extreme ideology that has not worked successfully in a country as large and diverse as the United States.

Trump, Cruz and Sanders are all true believers — one in himself, one in conservative political thought, and one in leftist political and economic ideology. None of them ever acknowledges the risks involved in their agendas.

Sanders and Trump have something else in common. They paint with broad brushes, caricaturing individuals and groups.

Whereas Trump maligns Mexicans, Muslims and members of the media, Sanders is equally demagogic when he talks about corporate America, Wall Street and his most frequent scapegoats, "millionaires and billionaires."

Yes, there are people on Wall Street who are selfish, vain, narcissistic, underhanded, deceptive and greedy. And yes, some of them break the law and ignore the public's interest. But most people who work on Wall Street or run American companies are not like that. And plenty of people who do exhibit those negative qualities are not on Wall Street, in corporate America or millionaires and billionaires.

Many of them are not even Republicans.

Of course, Bernie Sanders won't be the Democratic nominee for president this year. If anyone gave him a serious chance of swiping the nomination, the stock market would fall precipitously and dramatically, wiping out working people's retirement accounts faster than you could say Katrina vanden Heuvel.

But the problem for Democratic strategists is that Sanders is doing surprisingly well. He is winning primaries and caucuses, and energizing many in his party, particularly the young. A large chunk of his party is in sync with his message. Hillary Clinton is leading in the Democratic race solely because of her support among minority voters and super delegates.

By STUART ROTHENBERG
CQ-Roll Call



Stuart Rothenberg is a columnist for CQ-Roll Call. Readers may send him email at stu@rothenbergpoliticalreport.com

Clearly, the Democratic Party has moved left over the past few years. Whether this is out of frustration that President Barack Obama didn't move far enough or fast enough in a progressive agenda, or because Democrats watched the tea party pull the GOP to the right, many Democrats want a much more "progressive" agenda.

The fact that Sanders, who continues to embrace the socialist label, is doing as well as he is ought to worry party strategists.

Shortly after the Democratic Party's 2006 midterm election victory, New York Sen. Chuck Schumer and then-Illinois Rep. Rahm Emanuel warned their colleagues that Democrats needed to prove that they could govern, that they could be pragmatic and work to improve things for the middle class.

Emanuel, of course, is now under attack from the minority community and his party's left, as is Bill Clinton for his White House years. On the other hand, Schumer is headed to become his party's Senate leader.

The question is whether most Democrats still agree with Schumer's 2006 comments, or whether they are now more comfortable with the views of left-wing intellectuals Michael Parenti, Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, Herbert Marcuse and Gabriel Kolko, as Sanders clearly once was and possibly still is.

One thing remains clear. Swing voters remain in the middle, so the further left the Democratic Party moves, the more ammunition it gives to the GOP, whether in 2016, 2018 or beyond.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

E-gaming in Garapan is a mistake

In response to the bill proposed by Rep. Lorenzo I. Guerrero, it is evident that there will be many negative impacts if the bill gets enacted into law.

An online casino, otherwise known as an e-gaming facility, offers games simulated from a land-based casino like blackjack, roulette, baccarat, slots, poker, and other card games but amplified to a wider range of technologically advanced games. The hundreds of games offered in a variety of enticing choices, ease of access and all the conveniences, and the novelty itself of e-gaming on our island will translate to hundreds of potential gaming addicts in our local community.

Although the proposed "Garapan Core Zone" is suggested in the bill to be an area of the island where tourists frequent the most, we cannot simply put aside the apparent fact that it is also a local hotspot.

How much of that assumed \$3-\$5 million estimated to be generated by the outcome of this bill will actually be the locals' money? It seems we jump at the idea of generating revenue for the retirees that we forget whose pockets this money is really coming out of. There is a logic behind attaching e-gaming facilities to hotels that speaks for itself: they are intended to be marketed to tourists.

Hotels serve as a melting pot for tourists from all over the world. If we allow e-gaming facilities to be placed in a more public area, the likelihood of locals being drawn into that same e-gaming melting pot increases significantly. Besides, what tourist wants to walk a lengthy distance from their hotel to an e-gaming facility when they can simply push a button on the elevator and be taken down

to the facility conveniently located at their hotel lobby?

We must place ourselves in the shoes of our tourists and ask ourselves, "Is this really designed for them?" or "Will this be a more slippery slope for the locals who spend their days in poker parlors anyways?"

What makes e-gaming facilities any different than the numerous poker parlors placed around the island? There is slim to no difference other than the idea that these proposed e-gaming facilities will be more aesthetically pleasing to walk into. The temptation lies in the location and we cannot stand behind a bill that allows a bigger threat to the recovery from our social ills.

Is e-gaming the answer or are there other industries that we can channel to provide for our tourists' entertainment needs? House Bill 19-150 poses the concern whether they should market e-gaming in hotels and poses the question, "Will gambling adversely affect their primary market—the traditional family demographic?" I believe that this question should be thrown back to the supporters of this bill. There will most certainly be a threat to the family demographic if all our tourists see in Garapan are these e-gaming facilities.

We should be looking for tourist-related entertainment alternatives that are family friendly. The options are out there so let us not take the easy way out.

Abbys Mitchell
San Vicente

Kudos to Mr. G

I want to take this opportunity to recognize a high school teacher from Kagman High School who I feel deserves to be recognized. His name is Gerard van Gils or Mr. G by his students and he teaches College Prep. He is also the one who started the Million Dollar Scholar Club in KHS. With his help and hard work and the backing of the PSS leadership, 21 of the seniors are going off to college mostly stateside with very little financial burden from the parents.

For the past two years, while still in 11th grade, Mr. G. molded them, taught them, encouraged them and helped them to prepare for college and instilled in them the advantages of being a college graduate. Along with the students, he helped them apply to universities in the U.S. and more importantly, he helped them apply for many scholarships available to our students. The results were eight of the kids became finalists for the Gates Millennium Scholarship, and four were awarded with the Asia/Pacific Scholarship besides the other financial assistance available to them. Most of the students were accepted and are going to different universities in the U.S. such as Dixie University, Utah State, Washington State, and Eastern Oregon University.

With the funds raised and continue to be raised by him and the students, the students airline ticket are going to be paid off plus their expenses during the trip all the way to their respective university of choice.

I am proud to say that I'm one of the parents of a Million Dollar Scholar student and my daughter will be going to college in the states with her best friends and together, they will face the challenges of being away from family and attend college in the U.S. I congratulate the finalists of the Gates Millennium Scholarship and the Asia/Pacific Scholarship and all the Million Dollar Scholar students and encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity and make your parents proud. Finish your higher education and come back and contribute to our community.


Again, I want to thank Mr. G, besides being a teacher, he dedicates a lot of his time and energy in encouraging our kids to better themselves. He really cares for them and their future. Sending our kids to college is very difficult for some of us. Believe me I know. With this help, many of us are somewhat relieved in supporting our kids while they attend college. I also want to thank his wife and kids for their understanding and thanks to all the individuals who have contributed to this Club. Good Luck to our 2016 Million Dollar Scholars!

Michael H. San Nicolas
Kagman High School parent

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼76°


FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼76°


SATURDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼76°


SUNDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼75°

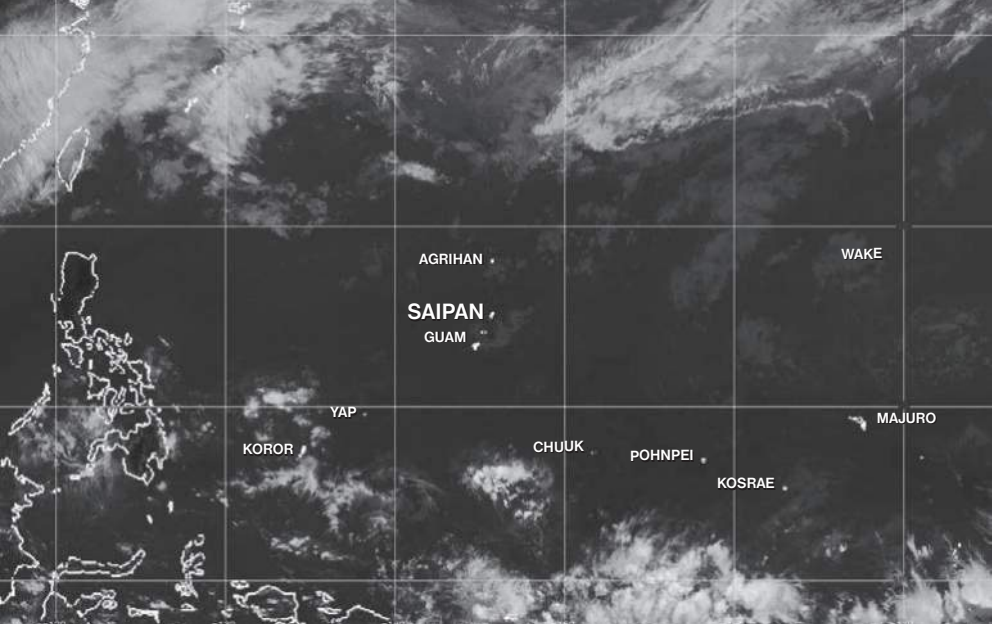
MONDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



AGRIHAN

WAKE

SAIPAN

GUAM

YAP

KOROR

CHUUK

POHNPEI

KOSRAE

MAJURO

-120

-130

-140

-150

-160

-170


PICTURE TIME: 1:01 PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with a frontal boundary well north of the Marianas are found north of 23N from 136E to 165E. Low-level convergence is producing scattered showers well southeast of Yap south of a line from 2N145E to EQ148E. A weak trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers southwest of Chuuk within 110 miles of a line from 7N145E to 3N149E. Another trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers west of Wake Island within 80 miles of a line from 16N157E to 23N163e. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers southeast of Kosrae within 130 miles of a line from 4N163E to 1N175E and just east of Kosrae between 7N and 5N from 163E to 166E. Scattered showers are also occurring south of Pohnpei south of a line from 2N152E to 2N161E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼78
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼79
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼81
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼81
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼56
Beijing	Sunny	▲75	▼44
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲80	▼73
Honolulu	Windy	▲83	▼71
London	Showers	▲63	▼49
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼54
Manila	Thundershowers	▲94	▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼52
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼71
New York	Sunny	▲58	▼42
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼53
Paris	Fog	▲65	▼51
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼49
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼52
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲62	▼42
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼43
Tokyo	Rain	▲70	▼56
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲60	▼42



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:11 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
8:46 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
1:23 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
8:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:32 PM
Monday	6:01 AM	6:32 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	12:06 PM	12:19 AM
Friday	1:00 PM	1:10 AM
Saturday	1:51 PM	1:56 AM
Sunday	2:41 PM	2:39 AM
Monday	3:29 PM	3:20 AM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016														
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS								
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN								
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily					
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily					
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7					
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota					
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily					
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily					
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)								
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6					
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN								
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6					
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN								
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily					
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN								
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1			7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily					
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7					
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily			OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6					
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily			OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily					
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily			7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily					
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN								
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6					
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN								
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7					
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN								
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6					
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN								
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5					
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN								
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM					
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM					
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM			UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM					
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN					
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN					
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR			OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN					
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM			PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM					
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM			UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR			UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota					
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM			UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM			UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM					
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN								
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN					
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN					
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN			OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN					
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM					
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota					
						UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					
						UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			

Govts commended for regional enforcement of shark laws

Nine governments across Micronesia convened from April 6 to 7, 2016 at a workshop in Palikir, Federated States of Micronesia to discuss how to work collaboratively to ensure effective enforcement of the Micronesia Regional Shark Sanctuary and discuss the larger fisheries management challenges, including illegal unreported and unregulated vessels.

The Pacific island jurisdictions of Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and its four States of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Territory of Guam attended the event, dubbed the Micronesia Regional Enforcement and Collaboration Workshop, hosted by the FSM government, with support from the Micronesia Conservation Trust and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

The Micronesia Regional Shark Sanctuary was completed in 2015, an area that spans 6.5 million square kilometers and prohibits the commercial fishing for sharks, retention of sharks caught as bycatch, and trade, possession, and sale of shark products.

Enforcement of the Regional Shark Sanctuary is key to



Delegates to the Micronesia Regional Enforcement and Collaboration Workshop held from April 6 to 7, 2016 in Palikir, Federated States of Micronesia pose for a group photo.

ensuring meaningful protections for these species.

"It is critical we take the words in the shark protection measures and put them into action on a regional level if we wish to protect these species," FSM Vice President Yosiwo George stated during his opening remarks. "This workshop is a momentous step to doing just that and illustrates the Pacific's understanding of the importance of this Regional Sanctuary to its marine ecosystem and the lives of those relying on these resources."

Palau Vice President Antonio Bells added: "Sharks are worth more alive than dead, especially in Palau's waters, with one reef shark contributing \$1.9 million over its lifetime compared to a one-time value of \$108 if sold at the market."

In the closing of his keynote address, Tony De Brum, Ambassador of Climate Change for the Republic of the Marshall Islands stated, "If the jurisdictions of the Micronesia Regional Shark Sanctuary are able to harmonize their

enforcement efforts and make these shark protections a reality, it will go down in history as a major achievement not just for the Pacific region, but on a global scale."

The regional workshop builds on a series of enforcement workshops that began in 2012 held across the region to train officials on best practices to implement the shark sanctuary laws. These workshops laid the groundwork for this regional workshop as each jurisdiction now has an understanding of the successes and

challenges to enforcing their respective sanctuaries.

"The Micronesia Regional Shark Sanctuary is the first in the world and is a significant accomplishment in and of itself, but it also acts as a framework for each jurisdiction moving forward to enforce its regulations," explained Willy Kostka, executive director of the Micronesia Conservation Trust, one of the organizations instrumental in the development of the FSM shark sanctuary.

The workshop included facilitated discussions on maximizing the effectiveness of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) efforts across the sanctuary and presentations from both government officials and experts in the field. Peter Graham, representing the Pacific Islands Fisheries Forum Agency presented on the multiple tools available to enhance communication

and collaboration between governments to enforce fisheries management measures, including shark protections, which will assist these jurisdictions in working together to make regional enforcement a reality.

At least 100 million sharks are killed per year in commercial fisheries due to the unsustainable demand for their fins, and nearly 30 percent of all known shark species assessed by scientists are threatened with extinction.

"Given the importance of sharks to the Pacific ecologically, economically, and culturally, the ability for these governments to work together to develop solutions to enforce the shark sanctuary on a regional scale is a significant step toward ensuring these species survival," said Jen Sawada, officer at The Pew Charitable Trusts. (PR)

Guam Supreme Court upholds convictions for tourists' deaths

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—The Supreme Court of Guam has denied an appeal filed by a man sentenced to life in prison for the deaths of three Japanese tourists in 2013.

The high court's decision on Monday upheld the criminal convictions of Chad DeSoto, who was found guilty in August 2014 of three counts of aggravated murder and 11 counts of attempted aggravated murder.

DeSoto had pleaded not guilty by reason of mental illness for driving into pedestrians on a sidewalk and stabbing bystanders with knives in Tumon.

In his appeal, DeSoto ar-

gued that his conviction should be reversed because the court gave inadequate instructions to the jury regarding his mental state. He also claimed some witness testimony should have been excluded at trial, including the testimony of his psychotherapist, as it was a breach of doctor-patient privilege.

However, the Supreme Court's opinion says the Superior Court's jury instructions "weren't erroneous under Guam law." It also says DeSoto waived the doctor-patient privilege when his attorneys disclosed medical records from the doctor to other expert witnesses.



THANK YOU DFS T GALLERIA

Recently, DFS T Galleria made an Education Tax Credit contribution to Mount Carmel School's Mock Trial Knights to support them as they prepare to represent the CNMI at the 2016 National High School Mock Trial Competition in Boise, Idaho. The team and the school are very appreciative of DFS T Galleria's support for this and other educational programs in the CNMI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Coin drive fundraiser for MMAC's Team Bodig

Members of Team Bodig will be holding a coin drive tomorrow, April 15, for its fundraising campaign for this year's Marianas March Against Cancer. The coin drive will be at the intersection of AK Toyota intersection along Beach Road

in San Jose.

Motorists and the public, who are passing by, are encouraged and invited to show their support to Team Bodig's fundraising efforts in the continuing battle against cancer.

The MMAC is set from May 13 to 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

For more information on Team Bodig's fundraising activities for MMAC, email Bridgette Camacho at bridgette.camacho@gmail.com.

camacho@gmail.com.

For MMAC, please email 2016 overall chair Geralyn C. Dela Cruz at geri.delacruz2@gmail.com or call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)

In homelessness crisis, Hawaii eyes thatched 'hale' homes

HONOLULU (AP)—As Hawaii deals with its ongoing homelessness crisis, lawmakers and residents want to revive the Hawaiian tradition of living in hale (HAH-lay). Those are the thatched homes made from

local trees and plants.

They say hale can provide more affordable housing, which is scarce on the islands.

A bill to ease restrictions on building hale died after critics brought up safety concerns. Now advocates are trying to

bring attention to a type of housing that celebrates culture and uses environmentally sustainable techniques to house the homeless.

Homes based on indigenous architecture are found from tipi-style homes in

Austin, Texas, to Tahiti, where thatched homes lure honeymooners.

Some Oahu residents want to convert a homeless encampment into a village of traditional hale with modern technology like solar panels.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 4th birthday to Caliann N. Camacho who will be celebrating her special day today, April 14, 2016. May God continue to guide her and give her all the blessings. With love from Daddy, Mommy, and sister Sammy.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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Nordic Ware Formed
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Board 16.54" x 11.02"
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CHAIR

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WET/DRY
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SOLUTION
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LAUNDRY
BASKET

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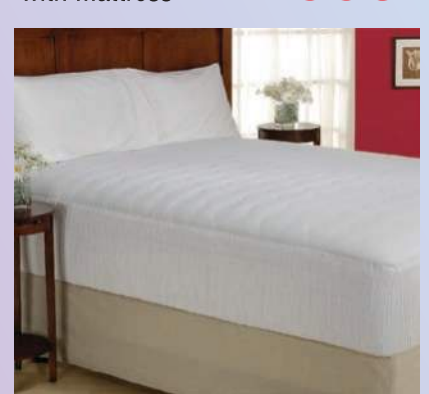
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Futon Bunkbed
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Business

Finance officials facing chronically weak global economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—World finance officials who meet in Washington this week confront a bleak picture: Eight years after the financial crisis erupted, the global economy remains fragile and at risk of another recession.

"Growth has been too slow for too long," Maurice Obstfeld, chief economist of the International Monetary Fund, warned on the eve of the spring meetings of the IMF, the World Bank and the Group of 20 major economies Thursday through Saturday.

The IMF on Tuesday downgraded its outlook for growth for most regions and for the global economy as a whole. It now foresees a weaker financial landscape than it did in January. Like the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the IMF has repeatedly overestimated the strength of the world economy in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis.

Problems span the globe.



In this April 8, 2016 file photo, people are reflected on the electronic board of a securities firm in Tokyo.

China's sharp slowdown has hurt commodity-exporting countries by driving down demand for everything from iron ore to coal. Prices of raw materials have sunk as a result.

A rising dollar has pinched American factories by making their goods more expensive in foreign markets and contributing to a sharp deceleration in U.S. growth since late 2015. The 19 countries that use the euro currency have struggled to gain any momentum de-

spite aggressive easy-money policies from the European Central Bank. Japan's economy is hobbled by consumers wary of spending.

Obstfeld expressed concern about volatility in financial markets, the refugee crisis caused by violence in the Middle East and the possibility that the United Kingdom will leave the European Union—a prospect that could undercut Europe's political and economic stability.

when compared with planes delivered in 2015. However, planes burn the most fuel during takeoffs and landings, while cruising at high altitudes is already the most fuel-efficient phase of flight.

Environmentalists have criticized that proposed reduction as too modest to significantly curb climate change, and are pushing the EPA to enact more stringent standards for domestic aircraft. Jet engines have a disproportionate effect on global warming compared to other pollution sources because the harmful gasses are released at high altitude.

Aviation accounts for about 5 percent of global carbon emissions, with U.S.-owned

airliners emitting about 30 percent of all aircraft pollution worldwide. While carbon emissions from land-based sources are largely in decline, pollution from airplanes is projected to triple by 2050 without stricter limits, the environmental groups say.

"Airplanes' skyrocketing climate pollution requires urgent action, not more foot dragging from the Obama administration," said Vera Pardee, a lawyer for the Center for Biological Diversity. "The EPA has dawdled for almost a decade, even as airplane emissions are on track to spiral out of control. We can't afford more denial and delay in tackling this high-flying threat to our climate."

versions of each truck, since those are the most popular body styles. A crew cab has four full doors and two full rows of seating. An extended cab has two full front doors, two small rear doors and smaller second-row seats.

The institute also evaluated different body styles because past tests have shown varying results. In tests last year, the 2015 F-150 SuperCab—the extended cab version of the F-150—lacked some of the structural elements of the larger F-150 SuperCrew so it got lower safety ratings.

Ford responded by adding reinforcements to the 2016 SuperCab, including

high-strength steel tubes in the wheel wells and aluminum rocker panels on the sides that help absorb energy from a crash. Ford also added nylon reinforcements to the door hinges. With those enhancements, both versions of the F-150 now have the institute's highest safety rating of "good."

The results were a vindication for Ford Motor Co., which switched to a lightweight aluminum body on the F-150 in the 2015 model year in order to increase fuel economy. Ford was the first automaker to move away from a steel body on its pickups, and some had questioned whether aluminum would perform as well.

Nation

Cruz accuses Trump of threatening delegates

ROME, New York (AP)—Texas Sen. Ted Cruz blasted rival Donald Trump in a radio interview Tuesday, accusing the Republican front-runner of being a bully, inciting violence and using dirty tricks to intimidate voters and delegates, as Trump continued to rail against a nominating system he says is crooked and rigged.

Using some of the harshest rhetoric of the campaign to date, Cruz said his billionaire rival is a bad businessman who has been surrounded by sycophants his entire career.

"Donald's whole pitch is he's a great businessman," Cruz said in the wide-ranging interview on the Glenn Beck radio show, adding that given how he runs his campaign, "it appears he can't run a lemonade stand."

The comments came as both campaigns work tirelessly behind the scenes to

secure delegates who will back them at the Republican Party convention this summer in Cleveland. So far, Trump has appeared badly outmaneuvered by a better-organized Cruz operation, prompting the billionaire businessman to rail against the Republican electoral system, claiming that the will of the voters is being denied.

"Our Republican system is absolutely rigged. It's a phony deal," said Trump at a rally in a packed airport hangar in Rome, New York, on Tuesday evening.

He pointed to Colorado, where he said the delegate-selection system was set up by "crooked politicians" to make sure an outsider like him could never win.

"These are dirty tricksters," he said, placing the blame on the Republican National Committee. "They should be ashamed of themselves for allowing this kind of crap

to happen," he added, saying that both Republicans and Democrats have set up "phony rules and regulations" that makes it "impossible for a guy that wins to win."

He went further a few hours later during a CNN town hall in New York City, suggesting the RNC was actively working to defeat him.

"The RNC doesn't like this happening. They don't like that I'm putting up my own money because it means they don't have any control over me," Trump said, arguing that the deck is "stacked against me by the establishment."

On Monday, RNC Chairman Reince Priebus responded to Trump's complaints, declaring that "the rules are the rules."

Cruz, in the radio interview, unloaded on Trump over reports that his supporters were publishing the home addresses of delegates in Colorado and threatening to make public the hotel room numbers of delegates at the convention this summer.



Cruz

Hillary Clinton, mayor take heat over racially charged joke

NEW YORK (AP)—Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and Mayor Bill de Blasio have come under fire over a comedy skit that some people feel was racially insensitive.

Clinton, just days before the crucial New York primary, was a surprise guest Saturday during the mayor's performance at the annual Inner Circle show, a black-tie charity gala that's the city's answer to the White House Correspondents Dinner.

Clinton, the Democratic presidential front-runner, took the stage to applause and, in a scripted scene, teased de Blasio, a fellow Democrat who

managed her successful 2000 U.S. Senate campaign, for taking so long to endorse her presidential bid.

"Sorry, Hillary," de Blasio replied, "I was running on CP time."

At first, that seemed to be a reference to a racial stereotype, colored people time. Leslie Odom Jr., a black actor who plays Aaron Burr in the Broadway smash "Hamilton," was onstage with Clinton and de Blasio, who are white, and pretended to be offended.

"I don't like jokes like that, Bill," Odom said.

But then Clinton interjected: "Cautious politician time. I've been there."

Many in the room where it happened, which was filled with New York politicians, power brokers and reporters, laughed at the joke. But it soon made its way around social media and drew some scornful media coverage.

The Daily News blared "Skit for Brains" on its Tuesday front page. Salon called the skit "cringe worthy." And New York magazine made reference to the mayor's black spouse, asking, "Does your wife, Chirlane (Mc-Cray), know about this joke?"

De Blasio, whose two multiracial children identify as black, downplayed the controversy.



ACROSS THE NATION

Woman lost 9 days in Arizona forest wrote 'help' in sticks

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—A woman lost in an Arizona forest for nine days survived by drinking pond water, eating plants and spelling out "help" on the ground with sticks, authorities said Tuesday. The sign helped lead rescuers to Ann Rodgers, 72, in the White Mountains of eastern Arizona earlier this month, the state Department of Public Safety said.

Rodgers declined to comment when reached by The Associated Press. However,

Rodgers told a Tucson TV station on Tuesday that she had food and water in her car but ran out after several days and turned to survival mode. "I was eating desert plants. My dog was too, diving into clovers and finding all the places that were the easiest to go," she told KOLD.

Authorities: Woman dismembered in home, body parts dumped

SEATTLE (AP)—A man dismembered a nurse and mother of three in her suburban home then drove her head

and other remains to Seattle, where they were found in garbage bags in a recycling bin, authorities said Tuesday. The disclosure came as a King County judge ordered the suspect in the case, John Robert Charlton, held on \$2 million bail and prosecutors said he could face a second-degree murder charge. Charlton has a criminal history. His parents had sought a restraining order against him in 2006, saying he had taken the movie "Hannibal"—about a serial killer—from a shelf and told his mother she should watch it and "beware."

Ford F-150 gets highest rating in new insurance crash tests

DETROIT (AP)—The 2016 Ford F-150 is the only full-size pickup truck to score the top rating in new front crash tests performed by the insurance industry.

Rival pickups from Chevrolet, GMC, Ram and Toyota didn't fare as well, according to results released Tuesday by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

The institute evaluated 2016 models in a small overlap crash test, which replicates what happens when a vehicle runs off the road and a portion of its front end hits a tree or a pole at 40 miles per hour.

The tests evaluated both crew cab and extended cab

Asia

Philippine diplomat to China: Don't turn shoal into island

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine diplomat warned Tuesday that any Chinese move to turn a disputed shoal, where the U.S. Navy recently spotted a suspected Chinese survey ship, into an island will escalate the disputes in the South China Sea and asked Washington to convince Beijing not to take that “very provocative” step.

Philippine Ambassador to Washington Jose Cuisia Jr. told a news conference in Manila that a senior U.S. Navy official reported spotting a suspected Chinese survey ship in the Scarborough Shoal a few weeks ago and expressed concern about its presence in the disputed offshore area.

The Philippine military checked but found nothing, possibly because the Chinese ship later left the shoal, he said.

China has said it has completed construction work to turn seven reefs into islands in the disputed Spratlys archipelago in the South China Sea, raising alarm in the region



A Chinese man is reflected on a glass as he reads China's nationalistic tabloid Global Times' front page article with a headline that reads: “the U.S., Philippine and Japanese military steer tension in the disputed South China Sea” posted on a public newspaper bulletin board in Beijing, Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

and sparking calls by Asian and Western governments for China to stop taking provocative actions that can lead to confrontations. Beijing says it owns the Spratlys, which it calls the Nansha Islands, and has a right to undertake construction there.

The U.S. Navy sighting of the survey ship in Scarborough, a rich fishing area about

230 kilometers (145 miles) west of the Philippines, has reinforced suspicions that Beijing is eyeing the vast atoll as its next target in its island-making spree, Cuisia said.

“That I think will be very provocative if they will build on Scarborough Shoal,” Cuisia said, adding such an action “will further escalate the tensions and the conflict.”

China criticizes G-7 statement on South China Sea

BEIJING (AP)—Beijing on Tuesday strongly criticized a statement from foreign ministers of the Group of 7 industrialized countries taking aim at China's island-building activities in disputed sections of the South China Sea.

For the second straight day, Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang defended China's land-reclamation work in the Spratly island group and accused the G-7 of diverging from its mission of safeguarding the global economy.

“Given the sluggish global

economic recovery at the moment, the G-7 should have focused on global economic governance and cooperation instead of hyping up maritime issues and fueling tensions in the region,” Lu said in a statement posted on the ministry's website.

“China is strongly dissatisfied with relevant moves taken by the G-7,” he said. Germany's Foreign Ministry confirmed in a statement that a representative of the German Embassy in Beijing was “asked” to come to the Chinese

Foreign Ministry on Tuesday to discuss the G7 statement.

“The representative of the German embassy made clear in the conversation that Germany stands by the joint G7 statement on maritime security, and explained our position once again,” the ministry said.

On Monday, the G-7 ministers had issued their own statement expressing strong opposition to any “intimidating, coercive or provocative unilateral actions that could alter the status quo and increase tensions.”

hospitals for treatment. Police are investigating the cause of the accident. Nepal is mostly covered with mountains, and most roads are narrow with hairpin bends, with only gravel roads linking mountain villages. Most accidents in Nepal are blamed on poorly maintained vehicles and road conditions. Buses are crowded and people often travel on the roofs.

Bone fragments from WWII crash site returning from India

NEW DELHI (AP)—Tiny bone fragments carry a world of significance and perhaps closure for at least one American family who lost a loved

one over the mountains of India in World War II. During a solemn ceremony Wednesday in New Delhi, U.S. military members paid final respects to what may be the remains of one to two crew members from a B-24 bomber that crashed in 1944 on a supply run from India to China over the Himalayan Mountains. The eight people on the plane were killed in the crash. For the first time, the Defense Department's POW/MIA Accounting Agency is bringing home remains of missing military members from India. The bone fragments discovered during a U.S. excavation will be tested for DNA at a lab in Hawaii.

World

Child bombers used by Boko Haram increases 10-fold

KANO, Nigeria (AP)—The number of child bombers used by the Islamic extremists of Boko Haram has increased from four to 44 in a year with devastating consequences in communities that now see children as threats, UNICEF said Tuesday.

Seventy-five percent of the children used are girls, a new report said, emphasizing that these children, many believed captives, are “victims, not perpetrators.”

“As ‘suicide’ attacks involving children become commonplace, some communities are starting to see children as threats,” said Manuel Fontaine, West Africa director of the U.N. children's agency. “This suspicion toward children can have destructive consequences: How can a community rebuild itself when it is casting out its own sisters,

daughters and mothers?”

The Associated Press learned of one case in which a woman in her 20s was freed by soldiers in an attack on a Boko Haram-held village. After she was reunited with her family in Maiduguri last month, she told her mother that she had been trained as a suicide bomber. The mother so feared her own daughter that she turned her in to the military, according to a family member. She spoke on condition of anonymity to protect the identity of her cousin.

The number of children involved in suicide attacks in Nigeria and neighboring Cameroon and Chad rose 10-fold last year, with the frequency of all suicide bombings increasing from 32 in 2014 to 151 last year, UNICEF said. In 2015, 89 of these attacks were carried

out in Nigeria, 39 in Cameroon, 16 in Chad and 7 in Niger, the report said.

Boko Haram has sent bombers to mosques, market places and other soft targets since a multi-national military offensive forced them out of a large swath of the country that they held until a year ago. Boko Haram wants to create an Islamic caliphate in Nigeria, Africa's biggest oil producer whose 170 million people are divided almost equally between Christians mainly in the south and Muslims in the north.

Another new report, from Mercy Corps, found unemployment was not a leading reason for young people to join Boko Haram, as has been assumed. The study, based on interviews with 47 former members, did point to a financial motivation, however.

Syria pushes offensive on eve of elections, talks in Geneva

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Syrian government troops pushed an offensive Tuesday against militants in the country's north on the eve of parliament elections—a vote that is expected to rubber-stamp an assembly loyal to President Bashar Assad ahead of a new round of peace talks in Geneva resuming this week.

Damascus says the vote, which will only be held in areas controlled by the government, is constitutional and separate from the talks aimed at ending the war. But the opposition says it contributes to an increasingly unfavorable climate for negotiations amid fierce fighting that threatens an increasingly crumbling cease-fire engineered by the

United States and Russia.

The new offensive, launched by Syrian troops and their allies Tuesday, seeks to retake an important hilltop village south of the city of Aleppo from militants, including al-Qaida's local affiliate.

Al-Manar TV, run by Lebanon's Hezbollah militant group, which is fighting alongside Syrian government forces, reported the offensive to retake the village of Tel al-Ais. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an activist-run monitoring group, said clashes were ongoing around Tel al-Ais and the nearby village of Khan Touman.

The Observatory said dozens of troops and pro-government fighters were

killed in Tuesday's clashes in Aleppo province, without providing precise figures.

Tel al-Ais overlooks a supply line connecting the capital, Damascus, to the northern city of Aleppo, parts of which have been held by groups opposed to the government since 2012. Militants captured Tel al-Ais earlier this month after heavy fighting despite the U.S.-Russian-brokered truce, which excludes the al-Qaida-affiliated Nusra Front.

The Syrian National Coalition, an Istanbul-based opposition group, said the offensive in Aleppo is a violation of the cease-fire, warning that the agreement will lose all meaning if the attacks continue unheeded.

Iraq border town freed from militants now isolated by war

RABIA, Iraq (AP)—Outside the police station, Iraqi men in robes and headscarves wait for permits to leave the dusty border town of Rabia, which was wrested from the Islamic State group 18 months ago but remains isolated and impoverished by the battle lines drawn around it.

To the east is the city of Mosul, still held by IS militants. To the west is the crossing into Syria, but that has been closed by Iraqi Kurdish authorities. The only way out is north to Iraq's largely autonomous Kurdish region, where authorities are suspicious of Rabia's mostly Arab residents and require them to

apply to enter.

The isolation is straining the town economy, making it difficult to bring in goods.

“We are living now on livestock alone. There is nothing else,” said Sheikh Fadl al-Shammari, a local farmer. “Look at the market. Vegetable prices are going up because of this. Same with other items.”

When Iraqi Kurdish forces retook Rabia last year it was a major advance against the Islamic State group, which had swept across northern and western Iraq in the summer of 2014 and declared its “caliphate” across its territory in Iraq and Syria. Now 18 months later, the town dem-

onstrates the difficulties of returning to the way things were before the IS rampage.

The town long relied on cross-border trade, but the crossing into Syria has been closed for months because of the rivalry between Syrian Kurds and Iraqi Kurds. All goods now are imported from the Kurdish semi-autonomous zone, making everything more expensive in Rabia.

“We hope that our Kurdish brothers will agree among each other because the closure of the border has affected us a lot. We are a border town,” said Sheikh Khaled Ahmad Safuq al-Shammari, the town's tribal leader.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bus veers off mountain road in Nepal, killing 22

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—At least 22 people were killed Tuesday when a bus slipped off a mountain gravel road in eastern Nepal and rolled down a hill, police said. The bus plunged off the narrow road near Barkhetar, 200 kilometers (125 miles) east of the capital, Kathmandu, and rolled down a hill for nearly 200 meters (650 feet), said police official Umesh Khadka. Another police official, Sangita Baniya, said that the death toll had risen to 22 by Tuesday evening and that all of the 20 people injured in the accident had been taken to

Focus



SOUTH CHINA SEA WATCH: CHINA ALARMS 2 other Asian nations

In this March 23, 2016, file photo, an aerial view is seen from a military plane carrying international journalists of the Taiwan-controlled Taiping island, also known as Itu Aba, in the Spratly archipelago, roughly 1600 kms. (1000 miles) in the South China Sea of southern Taiwan.

AP

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tensions in the South China Sea are rising, pitting China against smaller and weaker neighbors who all lay claim to islands, coral reefs and lagoons in waters rich in fish and potential gas and oil reserves. China's recent construction of artificial islands complete with airstrips and radar stations, and U.S. patrols challenging Beijing's vast territorial claims, have caused concern that the strategically important waters could become a flashpoint.

A look at some of the most recent key developments:

INDONESIA, MALAYSIA WORRIED

Vietnam and the Philippines have been China's most frequent South China Sea adversaries, but now Indonesia and Malaysia are upset over forays by Chinese vessels close to their shores.

Tensions with Indonesia flared when one of its patrol ships intercepted a Chinese fishing vessel on March 19 off the Natuna Islands. That's where Indonesia's exclusive economic zone overlaps with China's so-called "nine-dash line"—which outlines Beijing's vast claims to almost the entire South China Sea.

According to Indonesian officials, a Chinese coast guard vessel came to the rescue of the fishermen and deliberately rammed the boat as it was being towed, allowing it to escape.

Indonesia has since refused Chinese demands to release eight crewmen who are being held on charges of illegal fishing. Indonesia deployed four special forces units equipped with an advanced air defense system

to the largest of the Natuna Islands, according to IHS Jane's Defence weekly.

Achmad Sukarsono, an analyst at Eurasia Group, said the skirmish could signal a turning point in Indonesian views on the South China Sea. It has "dispelled the notion in Jakarta that Indonesia has no real stake in South China Sea tensions," he said.

Malaysia, meanwhile, complained that about 100 Chinese fishing boats had encroached near the Loconia Shoals. The Chinese Foreign Ministry said the boats have a right to be there. Chinese officials consider the waters to be traditional Chinese fishing grounds.

PHILIPPINES, US TROOPS IN WAR DRILLS

The Philippines, which has turned to the U.S. to beef up its defense against China, has hosted more than 5,000 American troops for annual war games that include a scenario that could be playing out in the South China Sea.

A key exercise involves U.S., Australian and Philippine forces retaking an oil rig seized by hostile units. The mock assault utilizes an unused rig off the western province of Palawan, which faces the South China Sea.

A highly mobile U.S. rocket system, the M142 HIMARS, is being used for the first time in the Philippines during the exercises. U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter will witness the drills when he visits this week.

The Philippines is expecting soon a ruling at a U.N. tribunal on its case challenging China's maritime claims. China has refused to take part in the proceedings and said it would not be

bound by the ruling.

OIL RIG MOVES CLOSER TO VIETNAM—AGAIN

Tensions between Vietnam and China are heating up again.

Vietnam has demanded that China remove an oil exploration rig from an area of the South China Sea where their border is still being demarcated, and has lodged a protest with the Chinese Embassy in Hanoi.

The oil rig was at the center of a standoff in 2014 when China parked it near the Paracel islands, which Vietnam claims as its exclusive economic zone. The incident sparked deadly riots in Vietnam targeting Chinese-owned companies.

Vietnam Foreign Ministry spokesman Le Hai Binh also protested China's operation of a new lighthouse on Subi Reef in the Spratlys, which is also claimed by Vietnam, the Philip-

pines and Taiwan.

Rejecting Vietnam's demands, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said the oil rig is conducting standard exploratory activities within waters under China's "undisputed" jurisdiction.

Hong also said the lighthouse on Subi Reef is a matter falling within China's sovereignty.

US ADMIRAL REPORTEDLY WANTS MORE AGGRESSIVE APPROACH

Adm. Harry Harris, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, reportedly wants a more robust approach to China, including more assertive freedom-of-navigation operations such as helicopter flights and intelligence-gathering within 12 miles (19 kilometers) of Chinese-controlled features.

So far, U.S. Navy ships have twice sailed close to Chinese-controlled is-

lands. However, critics say those maneuvers amounted to innocent passage, during which foreign vessels do not stop or carry out activities that might be perceived as hostile.

The Navy Times quoted defense officials as saying the White House is discouraging strong rhetoric by military leaders on the South China Sea. It reported that National Security Adviser Susan Rice on March 18 imposed a gag order on military leaders over South China Sea comments in the run-up to the nuclear summit in Washington that ended April 1.

"The White House's aversion to risk has resulted in an indecisive policy that has failed to deter China's pursuit of maritime hegemony while confusing and alarming our regional allies and partners," Sen. John McCain, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said in a statement.

Harris declined to comment on the report, according to the Navy Times.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, speaking in Washington, said that Beijing respects freedom of navigation and overflight but will defend its sovereignty in the South China Sea. Xi said China won't accept any act disguised as freedom of navigation that violates its security.

LAST WORD

"Washington should know that the more provocative moves it makes against China, the more counter-measures Beijing will take. Such an undesirable cycle may push both sides nearer confrontation and cause both to prepare for the worst-case scenario, potentially making it self-fulfilling,"—editorial in the U.S. edition of the state-supported China Daily.



AP

This Tuesday, April 5, 2016 photo provided by China's Xinhua News Agency shows the lighthouse on Zhubi Reef of Nansha Islands in the South China Sea.

Environment

Drowning history: Sea level rise threatens US historic sites



AP
In this Nov. 30, 2012 file photo, the Statue of Liberty stands beyond parts of a brick walkway damaged in Superstorm Sandy on Liberty Island in New York.

By **MICHELLE R. SMITH**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

With scientists forecasting sea levels to rise by anywhere from several inches to several feet by 2100, historic structures and coastal heritage sites around the world are under threat. Some sites and artifacts could become submerged.

Scientists, historic preservationists, architects and public officials are meeting this week in Newport, Rhode Island—one of the threatened areas—to discuss the problem, how to adapt to rising seas and preserve historic structures.

“Any coastal town that has significant historic properties is going to be facing the challenge of protecting those properties from increased water and storm activity,” said Margot Nishimura, of the Newport Restoration Foundation, the nonprofit group hosting the conference.

Federal authorities have encouraged people to elevate structures in low-lying areas, but that poses challenges in dense neighborhoods of centuries-old homes built around central brick chimneys, Nishimura said, especially ones where preservationists are trying to keep the character intact.

Many of the most threatened sites in North America lie along the East Coast between Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and southern Maine, where the rate of sea level rise is among the fastest in the



AP
In this Feb. 22, 2007 file photo, Faneuil Hall, right, one of the sites on Boston's Freedom Trail, sits among buildings on an evening in downtown in Boston.

world, said Adam Markham, of the Union of Concerned Scientists, a speaker at the conference.

“We’re actually not going to be able to save everything,” he said.

A look at some of the historic areas and cultural sites that are under threat from rising sea levels:

STATUE OF LIBERTY AND ELLIS ISLAND

Situated in New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island are some of New York’s most important tourist attractions.

In 2012, Superstorm Sandy submerged most of the low-elevation Liberty and Ellis islands. After the storm, the Statue of Liberty, a gift from

the people of France in 1886, was closed for eight months. Ellis Island, the entry point for about 12 million immigrants to the United States from 1892 to 1954, remained closed for nearly a year.

A report by the National Park Service looked at how several parks would be threatened by 1 meter, or around 3 feet, of sea level rise. It found \$1.51 billion worth of assets at the Statue of Liberty National Monument were highly exposed to sea level rise.

HISTORIC BOSTON

Much of historic Boston is along the water and is at risk due to sea level rise, including Faneuil Hall, the market building known as the “Cradle of Liberty,” and parts of the

Freedom Trail, a walking trail that links historic sites around the city.

Boston has seen a growing number of flooding events in recent years, up from two annually in the 1970s to an average of 11 annually between 2009 and 2013, according to a 2014 report by the Union of Concerned Scientists. If sea levels rise by 5 inches, the group reported, the number of floods is projected to grow to 31 annually. If seas rise by 11 inches, the number of flooding events is projected to rise to 72 per year.

NEWPORT

The Point neighborhood in the Rhode Island resort town has one of the highest concentrations of Colonial houses in the



AP
In this June 14, 2006 file photo, people walk along a street in the historic section of coastal Annapolis, Md.

United States, and it sits 4 feet above mean sea level. Tidal flooding is already occurring in the neighborhood, and that is expected to increase as sea levels rise, Nishimura said. The smell of sea water already permeates the basement of some homes.

ANNAPOLIS

Maryland’s capital, on Chesapeake Bay, boasts the nation’s largest concentration of 18th-century brick buildings. The city briefly served as the nation’s capital in the post-Revolutionary War period, and the Treaty of Paris, which formally ended the war, was ratified there. The city is also home to the U.S. Naval Academy.

The city already sees tidal flooding dozens of times a year, and scientists have predicted number could rise to hundreds annually in the next 30 years.

JAMESTOWN

Established in 1607, it is the first permanent English colony in North America. It sits along the tidal James River in Virginia, and most of the settlement is less than 3 feet above sea level. A large part of the settlement has already eroded because of wave action, Markham said. Storms have also damaged the site, including Hurricane Isabel in 2003, which flooded nearly 1 million artifacts. A rising water table at the site also poses a threat to archaeological remains, Markham said.

He called the loss of ar-

chaeological artifacts “an urgent problem” along the U.S. coastline.

HAWAII

Reports by the National Park Service and others have found that rising sea level rises threaten archaeological sites at various historic places in Hawaii. Those include ancient fish ponds at Pu’ukohola Heiau National Historic Site and a “Great Wall” at a sacred site in Pu’uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park. It is considered the best-preserved such wall in Hawaii.

INTERNATIONAL SITES

Dozens of UNESCO World Heritage Sites are under threat from sea level rise, according to a 2014 report by climate scientists Ben Marzeion, of the University of Innsbruck in Austria, and Anders Levermann, of the Potsdam Institute in Germany.

Among those are: the Tower of London; Robben Island in South Africa, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 27 years; Venice, Italy, and its lagoon; Mont-Saint-Michel, home to an abbey built atop a rocky islet in France; the Kasbah of Algiers, Algeria; the historic district of Old Quebec, Canada; Old Havana in Cuba; and archaeological areas of Pompeii, Italy, and Carthage in Tunisia.

The authors wrote that their findings indicate that “fundamental decisions with regard to mankind’s cultural heritage are required.”

Life & Style

Judge orders Bill Cosby's wife to continue deposition

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP)—Bill Cosby's wife was ordered on Tuesday to continue her deposition in a civil defamation lawsuit in Massachusetts filed by seven women who allege the comedian sexually assaulted them decades ago.

A federal magistrate judge ruled that Camille Cosby must sit for another day of questioning from the women's lawyers. The 72-year-old Cosby, who was not present in court, had sought to terminate the proceedings, or at least limit it.

She sat for the first part of the deposition in February in Springfield, near where the

family has a home in rural Massachusetts. The second session is now scheduled for April 19.

Joe Cammarata, a lawyer for the women, called it a "good day" in court because his team will be able to continue their questioning. He said Camille Cosby is to be deposed in Boston at a location to be determined for no more than 5 hours and 45 minutes, based on the judge's order.

Bill Cosby's camp also claimed victory.

Spokesman Andrew Wyatt said the judge denied the request to end the proceed-

ings but also granted Camille Cosby's request to limit the types of questions asked going forward, prohibiting plaintiffs from asking "improper questions," including those involving protected communications between husband and wife.

Massachusetts' marital disqualification rule says a spouse doesn't have to testify about private marital conversations.

Cosby's lawyers complained in court filings of "a litany of improper and offensive questions" asked during the first session.

They said Cammarata questioned Camille Cosby about

her sexual relations and her opinion of the honesty and integrity of her husband—questions they argued were "designed to annoy, embarrass, and oppress the witness."

Cammarata countered in

court filings that Camille Cosby refused to answer dozens of questions based on an overly broad interpretation of the marital disqualification rule, attorney-client privilege and a "non-existent" privilege of privacy.

Camille Cosby's deposition in the civil lawsuit comes as her husband, who starred in *The Cosby Show*, faces criminal charges in Pennsylvania.

The 78-year-old comedian is charged with sexually assaulting Andrea Constand, a former Temple University employee, at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004. Cosby, who is out on bail, has pleaded not guilty.

The women in the defamation case claim Cosby tainted their reputations when he allowed his representatives to brand them as liars after they went public with their allegations of sexual assault.

They are among about 50 women who have come forward to claim that Cosby forced unwanted sexual contact on them decades ago. Cosby denies their allegations.



AP
In this Feb. 2, 2016 file photo, actor and comedian Bill Cosby arrives for a court appearance in Norristown, Pa.

California weighs changing rape statute after Cosby claims



AP
Assemblyman Mike Gipson, D-Carson, speaks at a news conference after a hearing at the state Capitol in Sacramento, Calif., Tuesday, April 12, 2016.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—A California bill prompted in part by prosecutors' difficulty in pursuing sexual assault charges against Bill Cosby cleared its first legislative hurdle Tuesday, when it passed a committee that previously rejected efforts to allow prosecutions for crimes that victims say happened long ago.

The bill would eliminate the state's 10-year statute of limitations on rape and child molestation charges.

Previous versions failed years ago in the Senate Public Safety Committee. But the new bill by Sen. Connie Leyva, D-Chino, passed the committee on a 4-0 vote after testimony by witnesses including Los Angeles lawyer Gloria Allred, who represents 30 accusers of Cosby.

Several accusers told senators they are unable to bring charges against Cosby because they didn't come forward years ago, and California law generally requires filing charges within 10 years of the offense. Among them was actress Lili Bernard, who last year went to Atlantic City, New Jersey, police alleging

the comedian sexually assaulted her there decades ago. New Jersey prosecutors could not consider charges because of that state's statute of limitations on sexual assaults.

"I had no recourse," said Bernard, who told how she still suffers emotional and physical distress.

Several women said they did not come forward sooner because they were traumatized and feared they would not be believed.

The Associated Press doesn't typically name people who say they are sexual assault victims, but Bernard and other accusers spoke publicly about their allegations.

"For most of them, it is too late to have their day in court against Mr. Cosby because of the statute of limitations," Allred said. "The door to the courthouse is slammed in her face."

Cosby has consistently denied sexual abuse allegations made by dozens of women around the country, some from the 1960s. An attorney and spokeswoman for Cosby, Monique Pressley, did not im-

mediately respond to a request for comment.

Eliminating the limit would lead to more wrongful convictions by allowing charges to be brought decades after witnesses' memories have clouded and evidence faded, making it difficult for suspects to defend themselves, objected Natasha Minsker of the American Civil Liberties Union.

It could be counterproductive because the current 10-year limit encourages victims to come forward and investigators to move swiftly, said Carolyn George, representing the California Public Defenders Association.

State Senate committee members said they were stirred by the testimony and concerned that, in Leyva's words, there is "an expiration date for rape victims in California."

Nevada extended its statute from four to 20 years last year after testimony by a woman who accused Cosby of sexually assaulting her decades ago. Bills this year in Colorado and Oregon would extend the statute to 20 years.

U2's Bono urges lawmakers to view aid as national security

WASHINGTON (AP)—U2 frontman Bono brought his star power to Capitol Hill Tuesday as he called on members of Congress to take swift action to deal with the global refugee crisis and violent extremism.

In testimony before a Senate subcommittee, Bono drew a bleak picture as he described the flood of people fleeing their homes in the Middle East, Asia and Africa. The human torrent threatens the very idea of European unity, he said, as he urged lawmakers to think of foreign aid as national security instead of charity.

"When aid is structured properly, with a focus on fighting poverty and improving governance, it could just be the best bulwark we have against the extremism of our age," Bono said.

Wearing his trademark rose-tinted glasses, Bono said members of Congress need to confront an "existential threat" to Europe that hasn't been seen since the 1940s. Countries such as Poland and Hungary are moving to the right politically, a shift he described as a "hyper nationalism." The United Kingdom is even considering leaving the European Union.

"This is unthinkable stuff," he said. "And you should be very nervous in America about it."

Africa, in particular, is grappling with what Bono called a phenomenon of three extremes—ideology, poverty and climate.

"Those three extremes make one unholy trinity of an



AP
Irish rock star and activist Bono testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, April 12, 2016, before the Senate State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs subcommittee hearing on the causes and consequences of violent extremists, and the role of foreign assistance.

enemy and our foreign policy needs to face in that direction," he said. "It's even bigger than you think."

Bono said he understood the financial stress the U.S. and other nations are under as they debate how much foreign aid to allot. But he warned the bills will only get bigger without action.

"If you don't do it now, it's going to cost a lot more later," he said. "I do know that."

Bono also suggested using comedy to fight extremist groups. "It's like, you speak violence, you speak their language. But you laugh at them when they are goose-stepping down the street and it takes away their power," he said. "So I am suggesting that the Senate send in Amy Schumer and Chris Rock and Sacha Baron Cohen, thank you."

In Syria, five years of violence has killed more than 250,000 people and displaced

another 11 million from their homes. Nearly 174,000 migrants have reached Europe by sea since the beginning of this year alone and 723 are missing or dead, many drowning in the cold, rough waters, according to the International Organization for Migration.

Before sitting at the witness table, Bono posed for photos with three members of Code Pink, who wore pink tiaras and held cardboard torches and signs reading "Refugees Welcome."

Cameras whirled furiously as Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., the subcommittee chairman, quipped, "So this is what it's like to be chopped liver." Bono joined a congressional delegation led by Graham that just returned from Africa and the Middle East.

Bono co-founded the One Campaign, an advocacy group that works to end poverty and preventable disease.

Ben Affleck to direct Batman film, Warner Bros. chief says

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Ben Affleck will direct a stand-alone “Batman” movie, says Warner Bros. chairman and CEO Kevin Tsujihara.

Affleck portrayed the caped crusader in this year’s “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice” and had been rumored to be the studio’s top choice to helm the film. Tsujihara confirmed they were moving forward with him in the director’s seat Tuesday at CinemaCon, an annual gathering of theater owners in Las Vegas.

The stand-alone Batman feature is part of Warner Bros. plans for an expanded DC Comics cinematic universe, similar to that of the Disney and Marvel collaboration. Warner Bros. has at least 10 features in the works, including “Suicide Squad,” “Wonder Woman” and “Justice League.” Unsurprisingly, those films comprised a major portion of Warner Bros.’



presentation, signaling that the studio is moving forward energetically with its original plans despite reports that perhaps “Batman v Superman” is not performing as well at the

box office as the studio would have liked.

Affleck, who is also directing “Live By Night” for the studio, made an appearance with Amy Adams, who plays

Lois Lane. He confirmed that both would be joining Zack Snyder’s “Justice League,” which is currently in production in London.

^{AP} Ben Affleck, left, and Amy Adams, cast members in the film “Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice,” address the audience during the Warner Bros. presentation at CinemaCon 2016, the official convention of the National Association of Theatre Owners (NATO), at Caesars Palace on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, in Las Vegas.

“Suicide Squad” director David Ayer and stars Will Smith and Margot Robbie were on hand as well to hype the supervillains gone straight pic, which launches on Aug. 5 with intense footage focusing heavily on Robbie’s Harley Quinn.

Warner Bros. also trotted out stars and footage from a number of their upcoming films including the Harry Potter spinoff “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them,” “The Lego Batman Movie,”

the Russell Crowe and Ryan Gosling comedy “The Nice Guys,” and the Emilia Clarke romantic drama “Me Before You.”

But beyond the individual films, a big focus was the studio’s ongoing commitment to its filmmakers and the specialness of theatrical presentation.

The threat of The Screening Room, a proposed at-home viewing experience of first-run movies, has loomed large over the annual conference where theater owners come not just to check out the new studio slates and mingle with stars, but to see the latest technologies that promise to enhance the theatrical experience for audiences. Major filmmakers like Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson have come out in support of the service, but the industry on the whole remains divided.

Movie association chief advocates diversity at CinemaCon

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The head of the Motion Picture Association of America says the film community must do a better job of reflecting the diverse makeup of the world, and it’s taking steps to do so.

Chris Dodd, the group’s chairman and CEO and a former Connecticut senator, spoke passionately about the Hollywood diversity crisis at the annual CinemaCon conference in Las Vegas. He gave his state of the industry speech to exhibitors and industry leaders Tuesday.

National Association of Theater Owners President John Fithian added that the more diverse the movie, the bigger the earnings. He cited global box office juggernaut “Furious 7.”



^{AP} Chris Dodd, chairman and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), delivers the keynote address during the “State of the Industry” presentation at CinemaCon 2016, the official convention of the National Association of Theatre Owners (NATO), at Caesars Palace on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, in Las Vegas.

While Dodd didn’t directly address theatrical competitors such as streaming services, he

stressed that theaters remain the “premier way to experience the magic of the movies.”

‘Hamilton’ the musical is now ‘Hamilton’ the best-seller

NEW YORK (AP)—“Hamilton” isn’t just a hit on Broadway. It’s a hit in print, too.

A hardcover edition of Lin-Manuel Miranda’s celebrated musical about Alexander Hamilton was published Tuesday and topped Amazon.com’s best-seller list. It features the libretto and pho-

tographs and accounts of the show’s creation.

“Hamilton: The Revolution” is out of stock on Amazon, with an expected wait of nine to 12 days for a copy. It was No. 2 on Barnes & Noble’s website.

Grand Central Publishing spokesman Jimmy Franco says “Hamilton: The Revolu-

tion” already is going into its third printing, for a planned total of 210,000 copies.

The book that inspired the stage production is Ron Chernow’s 2004 biography of the founding father. It was No. 22 on Amazon.com on Tuesday. The show’s hip-hop soundtrack also has been a best-seller.

Young studio makes big CinemaCon debut among heavyweights

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Newbie film studio STX has a fresh creative partner in its ring: Sylvester Stallone.

The less than two-year-old company that specializes in mid-budget films like “The Gift” announced Tuesday at CinemaCon that it would be developing a film project with Stallone, who was on site at

the annual gathering of theater owners.

STX Motion Picture Group Chairman Adam Fogelson also brought out director Gary Ross, Matthew McConaughey and Gugu Mbatha-Raw to preview footage from this summer’s “The Free State of Jones,” a Civil War drama about Confederate rebellion

leader Newt Knight.

In the presentation, Fogelson touted the company’s diverse range of movies, which includes the coming-of-age drama “The Edge of Seventeen,” the Jackie Chan action thriller “The Foreigner,” the raunchy comedy “Bad Moms,” and the Jonas Cuarón-directed border drama “Desierto.”

Keeping wealth quiet causes millionaire to suffer anxiety

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 29-year-old self-made millionaire who has spent the last decade saving and investing my middle-class income. I grew up dirt poor, so at 18 I left home with \$5, went straight to work and never looked back.

Recently, I’ve realized that I struggle to make friends for fear they’ll find out about my financial situation. Those who know only want to talk about money or treat me differently. Most of my peers are broke and it makes me feel guilty. Those with high incomes blow their money on fancy dinners and luxury vehicles. I’m just a working-class woman who likes driving my 10-year-old car, and I don’t feel like I fit in with anyone. In fact, I’m developing an anxiety.

A few months ago I went to the bank to deposit a large sum of money and was mortified to see that the bank teller was a friend of the family. I have gone to the extreme of lying about owning homes and going on vacations, and it’s making me crazy. I even have issues with letting my young daughter’s friends come over for playdates, for fear that the other moms will think our house is “too nice.” Do I need counseling or is this just a turning point in my life that I need to grasp?

MONEY WORRIES

DEAR MONEY WORRIES: If someone has to have

money worries, yours are the nicest kind to have. It would be interesting to know how many successful people share your feelings, because I suspect that you are far from alone in experiencing them. (A psychiatrist once told me that many of her successful patients feel like frauds despite their considerable accomplishments.) A licensed mental health professional can help you to get past these feelings before they cause your daughter to be isolated, and I think the money would be well spent.

P.S. If you feel your banking transactions are not being kept confidential, either change financial institutions or arrange for private banking, which is available for high-net-worth individuals.

DEAR ABBY: I am raising two of my grandchildren because their parents can’t take care of them. The kids are still learning acceptable behavior because they were never taught.

I’ll give you an example of something that happens often: I was paying for an item at a store and my granddaughter sneaked behind the counter and reached into the display case. Cupcakes were involved. The saleslady asked her to stop. I immediately got ahold of my wayward offender, glued her to my side until I was finished and then made her apologize.

The problem was, the saleslady immediately said, “Oh, it’s

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

OK.” I then had to ask the saleslady to please NOT tell my granddaughter that it was OK, but instead to accept my granddaughter’s apology, because my granddaughter really would think it WAS OK. Your thoughts?

RAISING GRANDKIDS

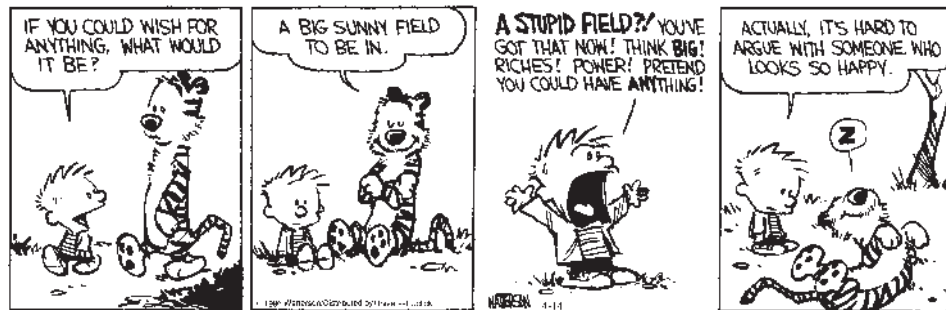
DEAR RAISING: I think the salesperson was simply being polite and professional, and that those children are lucky to have such a caring grandmother watching out for them.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order “How to Be Popular.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

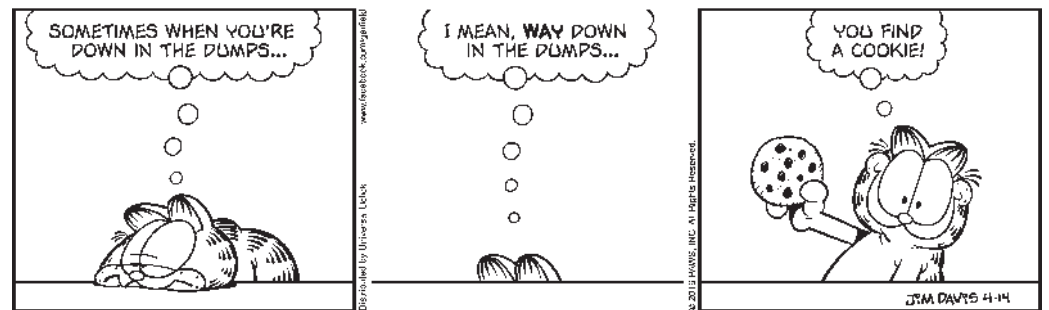
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



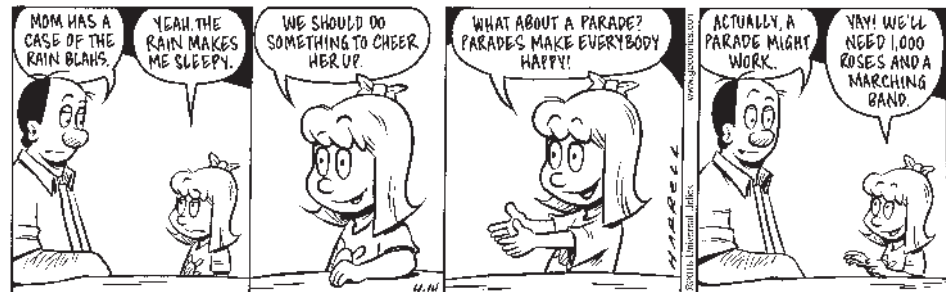
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



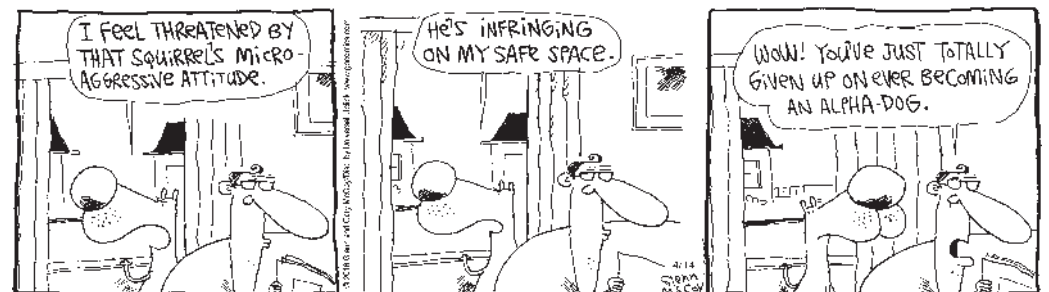
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 McNally partner
5 Curator's concern
8 "Named Sue"
12 Sheltered
13 Floral ring
14 Kate of "House of Cards"
15 Poultry
16 Nemesis
17 Modern taxi alternative
18 Perfume sampler
20 Trust
22 Devoured
23 Collection
24 Picnic invaders
27 Workers' jargon
32 Pod dweller
33 Young lion
34 Zodiac cat
35 "I'm listening"
38 Luau strings

DOWN

39 Mauna
40 Prune
42 Post-poned
45 Economical way to buy
49 Greek vowels
50 1040 org.
52 Nobel Prize subj.
53 Indy event
54 "A mouse!"
55 Jai
56 Black and-white tubes
58 Wilson's predecessor
1 Huck's transport
2 Skin soother
3 Reporter's quest
4 River formations
5 Out-of-doors, as dining
6 Old Oldsmobile
7 Level
8 Talisman
9 Cooling, maybe
10 Black-and-white cookie
11 Fish story
19 Alien, for short
21 Kreskin's claim
24 Likely funder
25 PBS Reply
26 sassily
28 Drone
29 Tapering pillars
30 Gypsy Rose
31 Decks in the ring
36 Grammar of "Frasier"
37 Menlo Park monogram
38 Cheerful
41 Atop
42 Actress Hatcher
43 — impasse
44 Regimen
46 Bruins' sch.
47 Rye buy
48 Make a sweater
51 Gun the engine

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	C	B	B	S	I	P	S	O	A	F
A	H	O	Y	K	O	I	H	I	L	O
G	I	N	J	O	I	N	T	A	L	E
V	C	Y	O	S	Y	I	P	E	E	
				V	E	I	N	B	E	A
A	L	A	E	T	O	R	E	I	S	H
D	G	C	J	A	V	I	T	N	E	E
E	S	Q	A	L	E	C		S	T	A
			U	G	H	L	O	A	N	
S	M	A	I	S	P	O	N	I	A	
L	E	I	A	H	O	T	P	O	T	I
N	N	S	O	W	L		R	A	M	
H	J	I	S	I	E	C	Y	E	N	S

Yesterday's answer 4-14

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Abigail Breslin, 20; Sarah Michelle Gellar, 39; Adrien Brody, 43; Brad Garrett, 56.

Happy Birthday: Emotions will play a big role in the way you handle relationships. Don't be too quick to judge or make assumptions. It's important to work on building up your confidence, but don't worry if you fall short of perfection. Be patient if you face a negative encounter, and you will be successful in the end. Focus on yourself, not trying to change others. Your numbers are 5, 16, 24, 27, 31, 38, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An observation you make will encourage you to make an appealing change to your image. Your new look will give you a professional advantage and will also help to boost your confidence. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A home improvement plan doesn't have to cost money. Move things around, recycle or make trades for the things you need. Use your imagination and you will impress someone you love. Plan to have a garage sale or donate things you don't need. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may feel like partying or letting temptation lead to indulgence, but before you head down that road, consider your health and reputation. Look for alternative things to do, such as making gradual physical improvements. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't get flustered by what someone else does. Stick to your gameplan and strategize to get the most out of whatever you do. An unusual

opportunity to alter the way you live looks promising. Take a leap of faith. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Be inventive and find ways to cut your costs. Nothing is out of reach if you make prudent adjustments once you set your priorities straight and focus on your objective. You can achieve your dream if you are willing to make sacrifices. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't hang out with demanding people or those who may try to dump responsibilities on you. Take part in activities that allow you to explore new interests and people. You'll make an unusual connection that will motivate you to improve. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Personal and professional gains can be made if you are willing to make a move. Check out your options and consider a partnership or educational pursuit that can lead to better options and higher earning potential. Romance is featured. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Analyze what you are up against and who you are dealing with, and you'll come up with a unique plan that will help you outmaneuver anyone who may interfere. Join forces with someone who offers consistency as well as inspiration. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't be fooled by what others do. Concentrate on making your assets grow or cutting corners so you can take part in something that will bring you joy. Positive changes at home will lead to an entertaining and romantic evening. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Joint ventures must be handled with caution. Look over agreements carefully and negotiate on your own behalf. Don't leave anything to chance or trust anyone to take care of the matters that can influence your future. Protect against emotional manipulation. ***



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a break and distance yourself from a situation that has been puzzling you. A fresh look at an old idea will give you the answer you've been looking for. Make plans to do something special with someone you love. ***



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Protect against exhaustion and injury. If you need to take a break, do so. It's important to set a pace you can handle when pursuing something of interest, pleasure or concern. Avoid indulgence and overreacting. *****

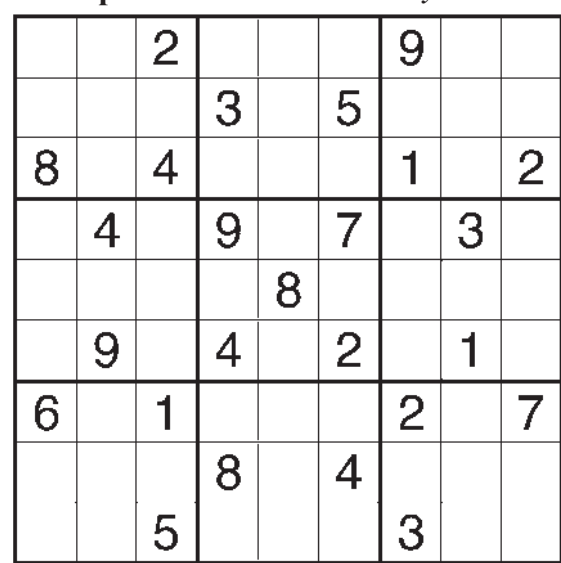
Birthday Baby: You are strong, disciplined and sensitive. You are impulsive and spirited.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

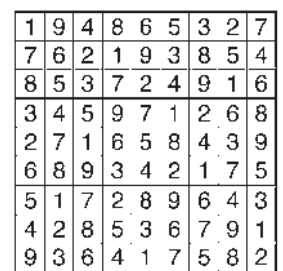


Difficulty Level ★★

4/14

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level: ★★★

1/14

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

LE PETIT TRIANON

Solution: 7 letters

P U B C H A T E A U Y R R A B
A M A E I C A S T L E F U N D
S T A E L T M A R B L E O T G
S E T D M V T I M E S S D O A
A E C R A A E A G N E E A I B
G U S A A M H D O C G D P N R
E Q A R F C E I E A A M E I
N I L R E C T I D R T C O T L
I T O T N I P I O B E A P T L
N N N A B R P Y O Z S F E E O
A A R I E A A U N N E E U Q U
Z F H T L L D O C O C O R N I
Z X S A T O R I C H A R D S S
E A C Y I B O T A N I C A L X
M E E R T S E L L I A S R E V

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Antechamber, Antique, Antoinette, Attic, Attraction, Barry, Belvedere, Botanical, Boudoir, Bronze, Castle, Chateau, Exhibition, Facades, Faces, France, Fund, Gabriel, Gates, Hameau, Louis XV, Madame, Marble, Masterpieces, Mezzanine, Palace, Passage, Piers, Pompadour, Queen, Richard, Rococo, Royalty, Salon, Times, Tree, Versailles
Yesterday's Answer: Piano
To purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Pastor: \$1,200-\$1,500/mo. 3 years experience and Korean language speaking fluency required. Email resume to goodnews@hanmisaipan.com.

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2 -- COOKS
• Minimum of 2 years work related experience
• Knowledgeable in Chinese cuisine
• Able to work flexible work hours/schedule
3 -- WAITERS/WAITRESS
• Must have at least 3 years' work experience. Preferably someone who speaks Chinese language. Flexible hours. Mail resume to P.O. Box 502351, Saipan MP 96950

JAR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) COMMERCIAL CLEANER (1) CARPENTER
- With 4 to 5 years experience
If interested, send resume to: P.O. Box 504249 CK Tel: 285-5354

SAIPAN MACHINERY, INC. 1 MAID & Housekeeping Cleaner
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• At least high school graduate
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- Safely operate equipment to discharge cement from vessels and load customer trucks
- Do periodic maintenance/trouble shoot all terminal equipment
- Prepare all paperwork to accompany loads and keep daily and monthly inventory records
- Ensure all employee are trained and follow safe work practices and procedures; consistent with company policies and OSHA standards

Requirements:

- Minimum of 2-4 years' experience in cement or related industry preferred
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written)
- Good organizational skills
- Prepared to work flexible hours, including some weekends, nights, and holidays
- Clerical skills a plus
- College degree preferred (or equivalent by experience)

Please submit resume by email to derek.sadler@hanson.biz.

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Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, April 29, 2016.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and persons with disability are encouraged to apply.

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc. Job Vacancy Announcement

HEMODIALYSIS TECHNICIAN (03)

- Certified form Junior College/Technician School in healthcare
- Attended a hemodialysis-training program
- Three years hemodialysis experienced-preferred
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Flexible with time schedule

REGISTERED NURSE (01 POSITION)

- Must Pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis-training program
- One to two years experience or related field
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-Service training with Baxter Phoenix machine

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick-up application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on April 21, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call (670) 234-2905, ext. 128.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

REGISTERED NURSE (01 POSITION)

- Must Pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License
- At least two to three years experience
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be flexible with time schedule.

Interested application must submit resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be April 21, 2016 at 4:00 pm. For more information please call (670) 234-2901 ext. 128.

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-16-001 AMEND

PL-UNGRADED: \$816.12 B/W \$21,219.07 B/W
Position: Assistant Sergeant at Arms
Opening Date: April 8, 2016
Closing Date: April 18, 2016

The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee

Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mañas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:

- Responsible for the safety & security of members of the Legislature;
- Attends all session, public hearings and any other legislative meeting as designated by the Presiding Officer;
- Records and maintains the Chamber's legislative meetings as scheduled and maintains order and security during sessions and meetings;
- Delivers official documents, serves subpoenas, and performs other duties as instructed by the Presiding Officer; official rules, or other legislative authority;
- Prepares the chamber prior to scheduled legislative meetings and maintains its security during the interim;
- Inspects and operates the chamber's sound/video system and responsible for the maintenance of the chamber;
- Records and maintains visitor's log sheet on a daily basis; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Must have completed a Law Enforcement Academy and undergo and complete yearly required certifications pursuant to CNMI law; and
- Must undergo a complete Psychological Evaluation;
- Have knowledge of rules, general procedures, customs and courtesies of the CNMI Legislature and general principles of law enforcement; procedures and techniques of maintaining order, security and protocol of a legislative body; and
- Maintains good working conduct and is willing to work regularly after normal working hours.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. All applicants may be subject to further interviews and examinations(i.e. writing assignment) to determine qualification.

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mañas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed, postmarked no later than the closing date to the Office of the Director, Legislative Bureau, P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

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ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

BUSINES

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Kobe says farewell after 20 years with Lakers



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kobe Bryant is down to one last shot, and everybody knows he's going to take it.

After two decades spent dazzling the world, Bryant will end his basketball career at home with the Los Angeles Lakers on Wednesday night. He'll walk off the court in front of his devoted fans in the building where he hung five championship banners.

He retires this week as the third-leading scorer in league history. Nobody ever got to spend 20 seasons with one NBA team before the 37-year-old Bryant, and he intends to thank Los Angeles with one last display of his transcendent talent.

"It means everything" to finish at home, Bryant said.

"I grew up a die-hard Laker fan, so it's like a dream come true for a kid to grow up and play for his favorite team, and play here for 20 years, his entire career," he added. "I've seen the city grow. I've seen the city develop, and vice versa. There's no place I'd rather end my career."

Tickets are reselling for hefty sums, and merchandise commemorating the day is moving briskly. Fans without seats will gather downtown to show love for Bryant, a globally admired athlete who both fearlessly represented and strongly resembled LA.

Flashy. Confident. Clever. Combative. Bursting with ambition.

And always entertaining.

"I've grown up in front of this crowd from the age of 17," Bryant said. "A lot of faces that I saw in the crowd in my very first game are still here. That's very special. Kids that are sitting there now, that were kids when I first came in, now come to the game with their kids. You know, that's pretty cool to see."

While Bryant's fellow Nike athletes around the globe wear shoes honoring the event they've dubbed "Mamba Day," the Lakers will attempt to send Bryant out in style against the Utah Jazz, who could be eliminated from the playoff race shortly before tipoff.

Coach Byron Scott expects Bryant to play more than 37 minutes, and Kobe's teammates will be feeding the ball to him on practically every possession -- admittedly not much of a change from most games during this otherwise horrific season.

With two 30-point performances this month, Bryant has proven he's still capable. He'll have every opportunity to run

up the score one last time.

"I think it's going to be crazy," Scott said. "We got a chance to celebrate one of the greatest to ever play the game this season, and I think we did it the right way."

Although some things went very wrong, they turned out all right for Kobe.

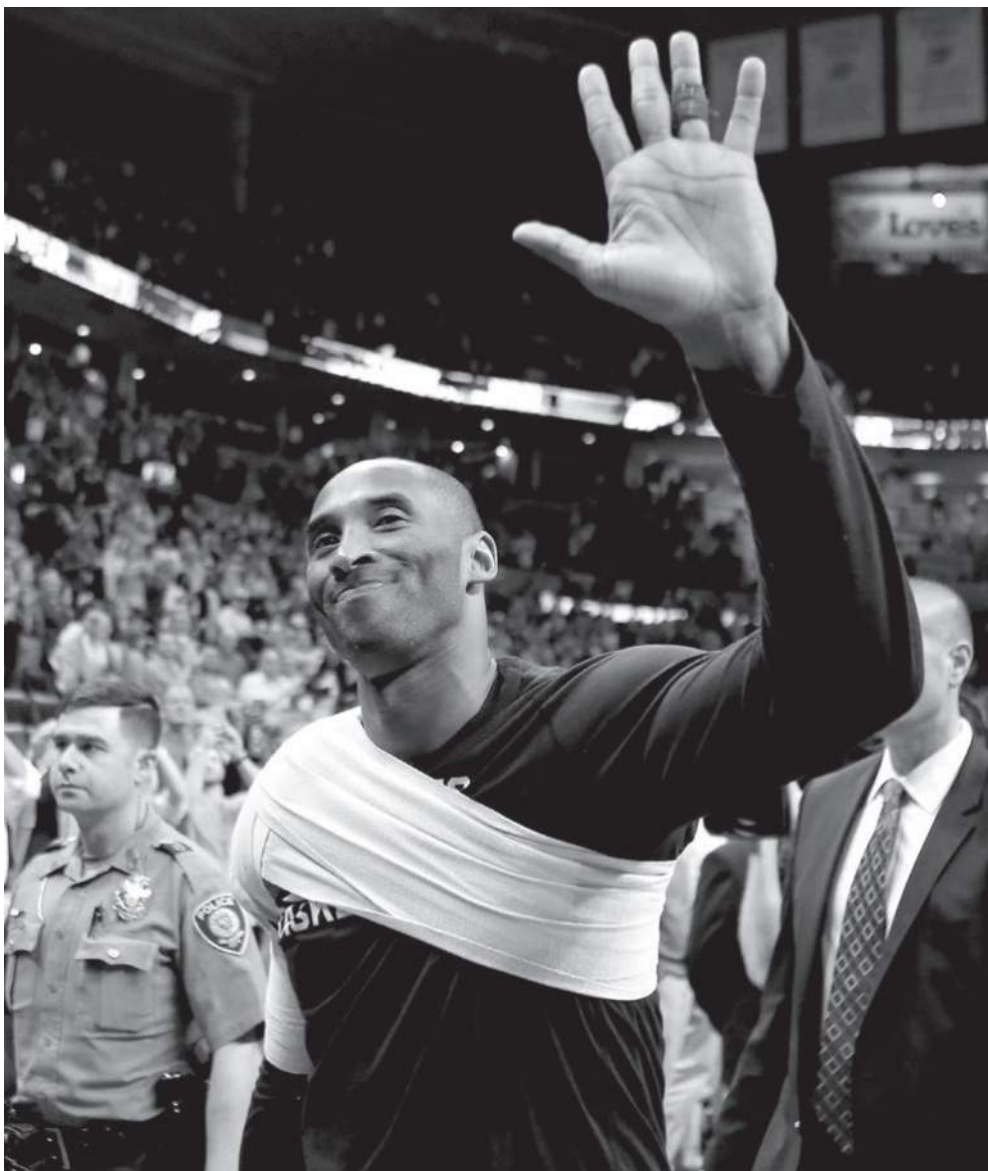
Bryant said last week that every season is a failure unless it ends with a title. The 15th such failure of his career has been comically bad, yet the ineptitude of the worst team in Lakers history (16-65) actually has made it easier to enjoy his farewell tour.

"We're not playing for a championship, and I'm pretty black-and-white on where I stand with that sort of stuff," Bryant said. "I've allowed myself to take the blinders off and enjoy the fans, enjoy the crowd. Laugh a little bit more. Engage a little bit more."

Indeed, the Lakers' recent games effectively have been tribute evenings for Bryant, with opponents shaking his hand and lining up for turns to guard a player who profoundly inspired most of the current NBA.

"It is hard to be great for that long," said Miami's Dwyane Wade, his U.S. Olympic teammate. "He has been great for maybe 19 out of 20 years. To do it at that level for so many years, with guys coming after you, I have a tremendous amount of respect for that. He's had a lot of injuries along the way, and he just came back stronger and stronger."

When Bryant was asked to name his greatest basketball accomplishment Monday, he didn't cite his rings. Instead, he chose his ability to find



Los Angeles Lakers forward Kobe Bryant (24) waves to fans as he leaves the court after an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Monday, April 11, 2016. Oklahoma City won, 112-79.

the motivation to return from three consecutive season-ending injuries from 2013-15.

Bryant hasn't had a major health setback this season, although he sat out 16 games, constantly iced his joints, rarely practiced and hardly ever attended morning shootarounds.

He reached the finish line on his feet.

"He didn't take nights off," Scott said. "I think his competitive nature and the way he went about his business gained him a lot of respect around the world."

Scott calls Bryant's farewell tour "much-deserved and much-needed." He has even fantasized about the perfect walk-away moment for Bryant: A patented fallaway

jumper in the final seconds of a tied game.

Spurs 102, Thunder 98

In San Antonio, Kawhi Leonard had 26 points and the San Antonio Spurs had to rally to beat the short-handed Oklahoma City Thunder 102-98 in overtime Tuesday night to finish 40-1 at home this season, matching an NBA record.

The Boston Celtics had the same record in 1985-86.

San Antonio was lethargic coming off its first home loss of the season to the Golden State Warriors on Sunday. The Spurs never led in the final quarter in that loss and trailed throughout much of their home finale.

Heat 99, Pistons 93

In Auburn Hills, Dwyane Wade got off to his slowest start offensively in a decade and finished with 14 points, but still helped Miami beat Detroit.

Miami will win the Southeast Division and earn home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs if it closes the regular season Wednesday night by beating Boston on the road.

The Pistons' loss sealed their spot as the eighth-seeded team in the Eastern Conference, setting up a matchup with top-seeded Cleveland.

Raptors 122, Sixers 98

In Toronto, rookie Norman Powell had 18 points and Jonas Valanciunas had 17 more and 11 rebounds as Toronto beat Philadelphia for the 12th straight time.

It gave Valanciunas a team-leading 22nd double-double of the season. Philadelphia last beat Toronto Jan. 18, 2013.

With the Indiana Pacers' win over New York and the Detroit Pistons' loss to the Miami Heat, second-seeded Toronto is now locked into a playoff matchup with the seventh-seeded Pacers.

Clippers 110, Grizzlies 84

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul had 12 points and 13 assists and the Clippers extended Memphis' freefall to the final night of the NBA's regular season, defeating the Grizzlies.

Losing for the ninth time in 10 games, Memphis dropped into a tie with the Dallas Mavericks for sixth place in the Western Conference.

Each team has one game remaining.

Pacers 102, Knicks 90

In Indianapolis, Paul George and George Hill each scored 19 points and Indiana beat New York to win its final home game of the regular season.

Trailing 64-62, the Pacers (44-37) finished the final seven minutes of the third quarter with a 17-6 run that gave Indiana a 79-70 lead heading into the final period.

New York (32-50) led at the end of the first and second quarters before the Pacers rallied in the third quarter.

Ready for the record, Warriors go after 73 wins in finale

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry never figured the Chicago Bulls' 72-win mark could be matched or eclipsed.

Twenty years later, the reigning MVP and his defending champion Golden State Warriors are on the brink of doing just that and making yet more history this season.

"I knew what it was but you never really thought about it in perspective of anybody chasing it. It was kind of that number that was out there that seemed invincible," Curry said after practice Tuesday. "Even at the beginning of this year, even when we started 24-0, it was kind of: 'Well, maybe we can do it. We're going to keep playing every night with the intention of winning as many games as possible,' but it just sounded kind of ludicrous, 72-10, how much good play

has to go into it. We're there now, 72-9, and we've got one more chance to beat it."

That comes Wednesday, when the Memphis Grizzlies visit Oracle Arena as Golden State goes for win No. 73 to best the 1995-96 Bulls.

And to think of all the scrutiny the Warriors got last June when they captured their first championship in 40 years.

Like that Golden State's title was no way legit because it didn't go through the San Antonio Spurs. Oh, and the opponents the Warriors did beat were all hurt.

Clippers coach Doc Rivers ruffled Warriors feathers six months ago when he made comments about Golden State getting lucky.

"You need luck in the West," Rivers said. "Look at Golden State. They didn't have to play us or the Spurs."

The Warriors were annoyed for a moment, then went to work showing the rest of the NBA they were for real - and playing with a bit of a chip on their shoulder, no doubt about it. They were knocked again along the way, with Curry's pull-up-and-shoot-from-anywhere style criticized by some Hall of Famers and other former greats.

No harm, just part of it when you're on top, Curry insisted, then shrugged it off.

He can silence them all soon enough.

"It's a big deal for sure," Curry said. "It's our last regular-season game, our last tuneup before the playoffs and nobody wants to lose their last game going into the playoffs if you can avoid it, and obviously 73. We want to get that number. Why not?"

Curry and coach Steve

Kerr expected the Warriors to be better this season, but this good? No way. This many wins? Hardly. Not with every opponent bringing its best every night.

Triple-double machine Draymond Green can't believe Golden State's position now, either.

He wishes the record hadn't come down to the regular-season finale.

"It would have been cool to take care of the games we were supposed to take care of and have it already out of the way," Green said. "The way this thing has played out, to be at home with one shot at it, it's pretty amazing. You can't not talk about it at this point. The whole world's talking about it now. It's everywhere. There's no way to hide from it now. Honestly, realistically, I didn't think it could be done."

Sweet 16: Gordon sparks key rally, Marlins edge Mets



NEW YORK
(AP) — As soon as Dee

Gordon rounded first base with his hard-fought hit, the Miami Marlins started feeling pretty confident.

Gordon sparked the decisive rally with a single on the 16th pitch of his gritty at-bat, ending the longest major league plate appearance in nearly two years, and the Miami Marlins edged the New York Mets 2-1 on Tuesday night in a much-anticipated pitching matchup that mostly lived up to its billing.

“That’s incredible,” winning pitcher David Phelps said. “Everyone was into it in the dugout and as soon as he got that hit, it almost felt like you kind of knew we were going to score there.”

Noah Syndergaard struck out 12 for the slumping Mets, one short of his career high, and left with the score tied at 1 after seven innings.

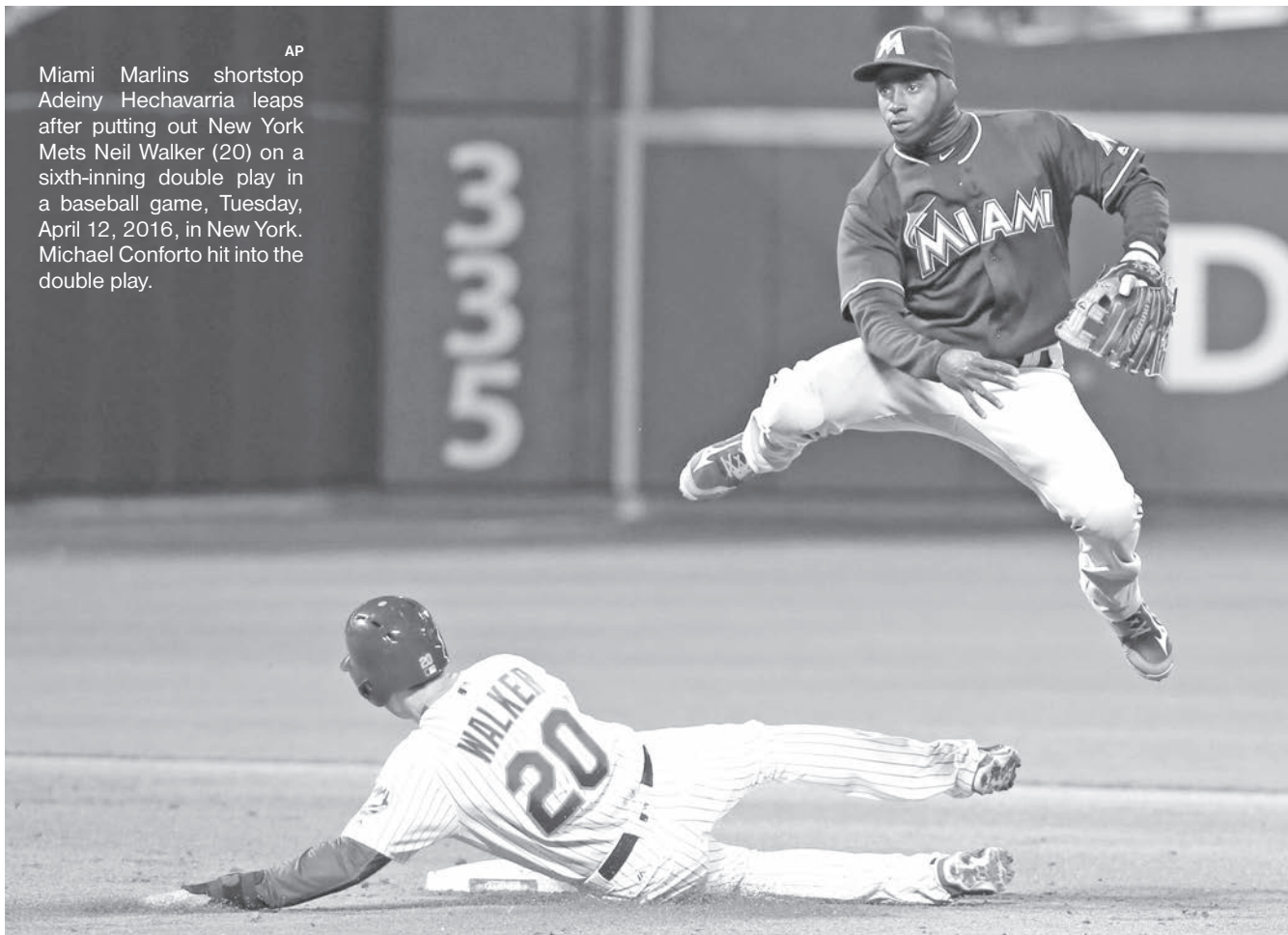
Miami ace Jose Fernandez recovered from a shaky start and went five innings in a game pitting two of baseball’s most electric young arms.

“I’m jealous of what they can do,” Phelps said. “You’re looking at the future of baseball right there, those two guys.”

Derek Dietrich had an RBI single in his first start of the season for the Marlins, and pinch-hitter Martin Prado delivered a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the eighth against Jerry Blevins. Gordon stole second base and scored the tiebreaking run after leading off with a single on the 16th pitch from Jim Henderson (0-1).

“I was just trying to put on a good battle,” Gordon said. “Keep fighting. Keep trying to get on base, that’s it.”

AP
Miami Marlins shortstop Adeiny Hechavarria leaps after putting out New York Mets Neil Walker (20) on a sixth-inning double play in a baseball game, Tuesday, April 12, 2016, in New York. Michael Conforto hit into the double play.



Gordon, who whiffed a career-high four times, is batting .435 during a 19-game hitting streak against the Mets. He fouled off 11 consecutive 2-2 pitches in the longest plate appearance by a big league hitter since Justin Turner drew a 16-pitch walk for the Los Angeles Dodgers from Cincinnati right-hander Johnny Cueto on May 26, 2014, according to STATS LLC.

Orioles 9, Red Sox 5

In Boston, J.J. Hardy had a pair of two-run home runs, Mark Trumbo added another and the Baltimore Orioles pounded the Boston Red Sox 9-5 on Tuesday night to win their seventh straight game to begin the season.

The Orioles are the only remaining undefeated team in the majors, and this is their best start since moving to Baltimore in 1954—the franchise went 9-0 as the St. Louis Browns to start the 1944 season.

Diamondbacks 4, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Paul Goldschmidt hit a go-ahead homer in the eighth inning and drove in another run, and Arizona spoiled Los Angeles’ home opener in Vin Scully’s final season.

Goldschmidt gave the D-backs a 2-1 lead with his second homer of the season off Chris Hatcher (1-1), who then gave up a two-out double to

Wellington Castillo before issuing consecutive walks to Jake Lamb (intentional) and Yasmany Tomas that loaded the bases. Hatcher departed to boos.

Royals 3, Astros 2

In Houston, Lorenzo Cain hit a three-run homer in the first inning, and Kansas City held on for a win over Houston.

Alcides Escobar and Mike Moustakas hit consecutive singles to start the game before Cain connected on a full-count, 91-mph fastball off Mike Fiers (0-1) to make it 3-0.

The Astros got within 1 in the bottom of the inning after an RBI double by Colby Rasmus followed by a run-scoring

single by Tyler White.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Brian McCann homered before leaving with a bruised left big toe, Jacoby Ellsbury singled home the tiebreaking run in the seventh inning and New York beat Toronto.

Johnny Barbato (1-0) pitched a scoreless inning for his first major league win in the first game between these AL East rivals this season. The Yankees lost 13 of 19 meetings with Toronto last year.

Rangers 8, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Adrian Beltre drove in five runs, Derek Holland pitched scoreless ball into the seventh inning and Texas beat Seattle.

Holland (1-0) gave up four hits and two walks while striking out four in 6 2/3 innings.

Beltre golfed a third-inning homer that barely cleared the fence in left field to give Texas a 5-0 lead. He added a two-run double in the seventh.

Angels 5, Athletics 4

In Oakland, Geovany Soto hit a go-ahead two-run homer with one out in the ninth, and Los Angeles rallied against Oakland closer Sean Doolittle.

Albert Pujols hit a two-run double in the eighth off Ryan Madson to get the Angels back in the game.

Marcus Semien homered twice and Josh Reddick drove in two runs for the A’s, who will try to avoid a sweep Wednesday afternoon.

Giants 7, Rockies 2

In Denver, Trevor Brown hit a pair of two-run homers and Jeff Samardzija tossed eight

solid innings to get his first win for San Francisco.

Hunter Pence also hit a two-run home run to help San Francisco win for the fourth time in five games.

Brown started at catcher in place of banged-up Buster Posey. He hit a two-run homer off Tyler Chatwood in the sixth and another off reliever Jason Gurka in the eighth.

Tigers 8, Pirates 2

In Detroit, Justin Upton had four hits, including a first-inning home run off a camera well above center field, and Detroit beat Pittsburgh.

Upton entered batting .227 with 10 strikeouts in 22 at-bats, then raised his average to .333 with the 11th game of four hits or more in his big league career. According to MLB’s Statcast system, the home run would have gone 451 feet had it landed unimpeded.

Nationals 2, Braves 1

In Washington, Bryce Harper sliced a two-run double to left with two outs in the eighth inning, lifting Washington to its 12th consecutive home victory against Atlanta.

Harper, the reigning NL MVP, broke a scoreless tie by connecting with the first pitch delivered by left-handed reliever Eric O’Flaherty after righty Jim Johnson (0-2) put two runners on. The hit hooked toward the line and away from left fielder Jeff Francoeur, who dove in a bid to make a catch but had the ball go off his glove.

Rays 5, Indians 1

In St. Petersburg, Logan Forsythe and Evan Longoria both hit two-run home runs in the eighth inning, and Tampa Bay beat Cleveland.

Matt Moore gave up one run, five hits, one walk and had five strikeouts in seven innings for the Rays. Xavier Cedenio (1-0) pitched a perfect eighth.

Kluber (0-2) allowed three runs and four hits over 7 2/3 innings. The 2014 AL Cy Young Award winner struck out six and walked two.

Phillies 3, Padres 0

In Philadelphia, Charlie Morton pitched sharply into the seventh, Odubel Herrera hit an RBI triple in the sixth and Philadelphia beat San Diego.

Morton (1-1) allowed three hits, walked four and struck out seven in 6 2/3 innings for his first win with the Phillies.

Padres left-hander Robbie Erlin (1-1) retired the first 10 batters and didn’t allow a hit until Freddy Galvis got a hard single to center with two outs in the fifth.

25 prospects scheduled to attend NFL draft in Chicago



NEW YORK
(AP)—The NFL said Tuesday that 25 prospects are scheduled to attend the draft in Chicago at the end of the month.

Among the 25 players are five from Ohio State, including defensive end Joey Bosa, who is expected to be a high pick.

Other Buckeyes include cornerback Eli Apple, offensive tackle Taylor Decker, running back Ezekiel Elliott and linebacker Darron Lee. The five Ohio State players tie the mark set by Alabama in 2012.

Among the others scheduled to attend are Cal quarterback Jared Goff; Mississippi defensive tackle Robert Nkemdiche; Clemson defensive ends Shaq Lawson and Kevin Dodd; UCLA linebacker Myles Jack; Baylor wide re-

ceiver Corey Coleman; and Michigan State offensive tackle Jack Conklin.

Twelve college coaches, including Nick Saban from defending champion Alabama, are also scheduled to attend.

Other coaches include Ohio State’s Urban Meyer, Florida State’s Jimbo Fisher, and Clemson’s Dabo Swinney.

The first round of the NFL draft will be April 28. The second and third rounds will be on April 29, and the final four rounds will be on April 30.

The draft returned to Chicago last year for the first time since 1964.

Meanwhile, the NFL has denied suspended Cleveland Browns receiver Josh Gordon’s application for reinstatement.

A league spokesman confirmed Tuesday that the ap-

plication was denied and that Gordon can apply again at a future date.

The decision puts Gordon’s participation for the 2016 season in doubt. He was suspended for all of 2015 for testing positive for alcohol.

On Monday, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press that Gordon “raised a red flag” because of a recent league-administered drug test. The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because results of NFL drug tests are not made public, says Gordon didn’t have a positive substance abuse test.

But a sample collected in March showed Gordon had traces of marijuana and a diluting substance in his system. The level of marijuana was less than the minimum

required by the NFL for a positive test.

Cleveland’s new front office has said little about Gordon, who applied for reinstatement in January. Last week, coach Hue Jackson said it was premature to talk about the former Pro Bowler because his situation had not been resolved.

According to league policy, for Gordon to be reinstated he must demonstrate sustained abstinence during his suspension. His past includes several failed marijuana tests in college, too, at Baylor.

After Gordon pleaded guilty to driving while impaired on July 5, 2014, in Raleigh, North Carolina, he was required to submit to alcohol testing under the third stage of the league’s mandated program.

Ronaldo leads Real Madrid to Champions League semis

MADRID (AP)—Cristiano Ronaldo came through for Real Madrid again, scoring a hat trick to lead his team back to the semifinals of the Champions League with a 3-0 win over Wolfsburg on Tuesday.

Ronaldo netted goals in the 16th and 17th minutes, and then added a decisive third with a remarkable free kick in the 77th as Madrid overturned a 2-0 loss in last week's first leg to win 3-2 on aggregate.

The Portugal striker delivered when Madrid needed a goalscorer, sending a curling shot in-between a couple of defenders in the Wolfsburg wall to earn his team a place in the semifinals for the sixth straight season and avoid a major upset to the German side.

"It was a perfect night," Ronaldo said. "I had said it was going to be a magical night and that's what happened. We played with intensity and the fans supported us a lot to help the team win a game that was complicated. It was perfect."

Ronaldo took his tournament tally to 16 goals from 10

games this season, one shy of the Champions League record he set in the 2013-14 season. He remains the all-time leading scorer in the Champions League, now with 93 goals.

"He scored three goals when the team needed him," Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said. "He is special."

It was Ronaldo's 40th hat trick for club and country, and the sixth this season.

"For those who doubted Ronaldo, he has vindicated himself again," Madrid defender Sergio Ramos said. "We need him."

Several minutes after the final whistle, Ronaldo and the rest of Madrid players returned to the pitch to show their appreciation to the fans who were still celebrating at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.

"It was a special night, we started with tremendous intensity and showed our rival how much we wanted this," Zidane said. "The fans were phenomenal today. We can only thank them for how they supported us."

An elimination by Wolfsburg would have been embar-



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo fights for the ball against Wolfsburg's Veiirinha during the Champions League 2nd leg quarterfinal soccer match between Real Madrid and VfL Wolfsburg at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, Tuesday April 12, 2016.

assing for 10-time champion Madrid as the German club was considered the weakest of the quarterfinalists and was making only its second appearance in the Champions League.

In Tuesday's other match, Manchester City reached the semis for the first time with a 1-0 victory over Paris Saint-Germain, advancing 3-2 on

aggregate.

Madrid hadn't reversed a first-leg loss in the Champions League since the 2001-02 season, when Zidane was still playing. But the 10-time European champion came into the return match with high hopes thanks to an impressive home record—having won 12 of its last 13

games at the Bernabeu with an average of nearly five goals per match.

"It was sensational, from the first minute to the last. When the fans really get behind the team they are like another player," Ramos said. "There were people who thought the comeback was not possible, but we managed the rhythm of the game well."

Needing at least two goals to stay alive, Madrid started all-out on attack under steady rain, and it didn't take long for Los Blancos to erase the first-

leg deficit.

About 10 minutes after Ramos struck the top of the crossbar with a header from a corner, Ronaldo opened the scoring from close range after Dani Carvajal finished a long run through the right flank with a low cross into the area. The ball appeared to deflect off a defender before reaching the striker for an easy finish from close range.

The home fans among the crowd of nearly 80,000 were still on their feet when Ronaldo added the second, a header from the near post after a well-taken corner by Toni Kroos.

The pace slowed down after the second goal and Wolfsburg, playing in the knockout stage of the Champions League for the first time, had two good chances to get back into the game just before halftime.

A long-range shot by Brazilian midfielder Luiz Gustavo forced Keylor Navas to make a difficult save in the 34th, and Bruno Henrique missed a great chance from inside the area in the 37th when his shot was blocked at the last moment.

"Today we were just a little bit off," Wolfsburg coach Dieter Hecking said. "We deserved to get here, people will remember our games. We improved as a team this season. I'm really proud."

MVA introduces Saipan Tropical Ekiden



The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) is marking its 40th anniversary with the introduction of a new signature event for the Northern Marianas—the Saipan Tropical Ekiden.

The Saipan Tropical Ekiden set on June 4 will be a 3-hour relay marathon featuring two categories: General division for any age (at least one member age 18 or older is required when minors are included on the team), and composite division for ages 18 and older.

"Ekiden" is Japanese term referring to a long-distance relay running race. The racing style is popular among schools in Japan.

"The Marianas Visitors Authority is very excited to be introducing a new annual signature event aimed at drawing more visitors to the Northern Marianas, and this type of sporting event is highly recommended by our Japan office," said MVA acting managing director Judy Torres. "We hope local runners will also be attracted to this unique team race format, which encourages both children and adults to exercise together for health and enjoyment."

Each team will continuously run a 2K course from 5pm to 8pm, beginning at Garapan Fishing Base and through downtown Garapan, switching to the Saipan Beach Path-

way for the latter part of the race into the evening. General division teams may have two to 10 members. Composite division squads may register in groups of up to four members, who may be combined with other groups to form teams of five to 10 members.

Registration for CNMI and U.S. residents is \$20/person for high school students and adults and \$10/person for elementary and junior high students. A U.S. or CNMI Driver's License of CNMI ID is required. Entry fee includes the awards ceremony and barbecue following the race, memorial towel, and certificate of completion.

The race is organized by the MVA and Japan-Saipan Cul-

tural Exchange Association and supported by Hori Production and ORLAIGH.

"It's a new type of race for Saipan, emphasizing friends and family, fun, and camaraderie," said MVA community projects manager Martin Dueñas. "We encourage interested participants to review the race fact sheet on our website to get familiar with the format, and give us a call if you have any questions."

Applications and fact sheets are available at MVA's calendar of events at www.mymarianas.com. For more information, contact MVA community projects specialist Ed Diaz at ediaz@mymarianas.com or call 670-664-3200/01. (MVA)

CNMI

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(100), and Brian Kim (90) rounding out the CNMI roster.

In the girls division, Miyawaki and Conatsu are in a deadlock for the top spot after collecting 1,600 points. Conatsu forced a tie against Miyawaki after stunning the latter in the Chamorro Open. Vanuatu's Rosalie Molbaleh (1,000) and Kiribati's Caroline Mwang (1,000) share the No. 2 spot, while the

CNMI's Asia Raulerson is ranked fifth with her 720 points.

Other CNMI players who made it to the 22-player rankings are Maria Gregoire (420), Coume Kaga (290) Erica Tuttle (220), and Riko Ojima (160).

Two more events will be played this year to decide the final rankings in the Pacific Oceania 14 and Under Circuit. A fully-funded tour to Australia in December this year awaits the top finishers in the two divisions.

LEE

From Page 28

mark. Australia edged Hong Kong, 2-1, in last Tuesday's other pairing. Pacific Oceania (0-2) was scheduled to challenge the winless Hong Kong yesterday for its last game in the pool.

Lee was slated to duel Hong Kong's Venia Yeung in the second singles game, while Kumar was paired against Claudia Ng in the first singles tiff. Lee was also set to team up with Guitton in the doubles against the tandem of Ng and Hong Yi Wong.

The other pairing in Day 3 had Australia squaring off against Thailand. Both teams are already assured of slots to the knockout phase regard-

less of the results of their game yesterday. Thailand and Australia will be joined to the next round by the Top 2 finishers of the three other pools. Japan and New Zealand are ahead in Pool A with their similar 2-0 records, while Chinese-Taipei and China hold the same marks in Group C. In Group D, South Korea and host India are in the Top 2 and are likely to advance to the play-offs where only the Top 4 teams will gain tickets to the finale that will be held in Budapest, Hungary from Sept. 27 to Oct. 2.

Meanwhile, Lee moved up in the ITF Juniors ranking list. As of April 11, she is ranked at No. 707. She ended 2015 ranked at No. 748 and she can get more points from a couple of ITF Juniors Circuit tournaments this year.

TWO

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McDonald's and Dikito tallied the two other runs from a pitching error and a fielder's choice, respectively.

A run from Tim Cruz off a Yankees' miscue moved the North Starz within one, 8-9, at the bottom of the seventh, but that was it for the Jonathan Tenorio-managed squad, as Flores relieved Jose Guerrero in the last two innings and helped the Yankees keep the shaky lead.

Flores struck out leadoff batter Jess Sablan at the bottom of the eighth and after a walk by Ben Lizama, the North Starz

committed two fly outs to end the inning. Flores then gave up another walk at the start of the bottom ninth, but quickly made up for it when he struck out the next two batters, while McDonald caught a line drive from Jared Camacho for the third and last out.

The Yankees needed to chase the North Starz in the last few innings after going cold from the second to sixth inning. The Yankees earlier recorded five runs at the top of the first for a good start, while the North Starz scored two runs apiece in the first, third, and fifth to take the lead.

Meanwhile, Titanium withstood the Ol'Aces rally to re-

main perfect.

Titanium was up, 7-1, after six complete innings. Nathan Camacho had a two-RBI single in the third and Titanium got two more runs off the Ol'Aces errors. Brian Camacho added a two-RBI double in the fourth and also reached off an Ol'Aces booby to widen the gap.

However, the Ol'Aces threatened Titanium after a five-run top of the seventh. John Tudela had two-RBI single, Lamarc Iguel and Rodrick Blanco each made an RBI walk, and Luis Iguel went for a sacrifice out in that rally. The Ol'Aces then got one more run in the eighth as Juan Iguel reached off a Titanium

error to boost the former's chances to extend the game.

Darion Jones had the opportunity to get the game-tying run as he made it all the way to third at the top of the ninth with two outs, but he was left stranded there as Brian Camacho struck out Mike Salas.

Meanwhile, the GSM Brewers and CK Bears collided in last Tuesday's game with the winner to join the Yankees and Titanium on top of the team standings in the eight-squad field. Results of that match along with the duel between the Falcons and the Yankees will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Friday issue.

PIC Hafa Adai 5K Fun Run

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Runners leave the starting line of last Saturday's PIC Hafa Adai 5K Fun Run



Rintaro Miyawaki is near completion of the race.



Ronald Villafria heads to the finish line.



Randy Steele of event sponsor Triple J Motors celebrates as he is about to complete the race.



Runners are greeted with the colored powder.



Ken Song keeps a steady pace.



Cadets of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services line up before the start of the race.



The third wave of runners heads out to the course.



Kobe says
farewell after
20 years with
Lakers

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Sweet 16: Gordon
sparks key
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Lee wins in Junior Fed Cup



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Carol Lee, seen here returning a shot during this year's Coconut Tennis Classic, won her singles match against Thailand's Watsachol Sawatdee, 6-4, 6-4, last Tuesday in the 2016 Junior Fed Cup by BNP Paribas Asia/Oceania Final Qualifying in India.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee stood out for Pacific Oceania, prevailing in the team's second singles game against Southeast Asia powerhouse Thailand in the 2016 Junior Fed Cup by BNP Paribas Asia/Oceania Final Qualifying last Tuesday in India.

Lee swept Watsachol Sawatdee, 6-4, 6-4, for Pacific Oceania's lone victory for the day. Thailand won the first singles match and the doubles for a 2-1 triumph. Lee

played in the doubles, partnering with Tahiti's Naia Guitton and they lost to Sawatdee and Thasaporn Naklo, 1-6, 1-6. In the first singles match, Naklo dominated Fiji's Vienna Ku-

mar, 6-1, 6-0.

Lee's victory in Day 2 of the tournament came after she nearly pulled off an upset against world No. 46 Baijing Lin of Australia last Monday.



The 14-year-old Lee topped Lin in the first set, 6-2, before the Australian swept the last two, 7-5, 6-1, to foil the CNMI bet's bid.

Australia went on to sweep Lee and company, 3-0, and is leading Group B with its 2-0

See LEE on Page 26

CNMI junior players lead Pacific Oceania 14U Circuit

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

More good news for CNMI junior tennis.

On the same day Carol Lee earned her first win in the 2016 Junior Fed Cup by Oceania Tennis Federation released on its Facebook account last Tuesday the leaders in the Circuit after four competitions and the CNMI's Robbie Schorr, Malikawa Miyawaki, and Conatsu Kaga emerged on top of the list.

Schorr led the boys division after collecting 2,000 points. He took the top rankings after ruling the U14 singles event in the 7th Tan Holdings Tennis Classic held in November last year and the 2016 Chamorro Open in Guam late last month.

Schorr is ahead of fellow CNMI player Ken Song,

who tallied 1,200 points for placing third in the Tan Holdings event and second in the Chamorro Open. Vanuatu's Samuel Strid and Warea Tigona are tied for third with similar 1,000 points, while Marin Hannam, also of Vanuatu, and Fiji's Armand Davia share fourth place with their identical 600 points.

Fiji and Vanuatu players earned ranking points from the respective tournaments they hosted this year. Vanuatu had its event in January, while Fiji hosted the Eastern Open last month.

Four more CNMI players joined Schorr and Song in the Top 10 as Seung Jin Paik registered 580 points to land at No. 7. Sean Lee (560) is at eighth, followed by Ji Min Woo (545) and Tony Kim (360).

Thirty-three players are on the ranking list with Aditya Rai (180), A.J. Hudkins (160), Allan Lee (120), Jeffrey Seo (110), Andrew Kim

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Two in a row for Yankees, Titanium

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Yankees and Titanium earned their second victory in as many games after recording

similar close wins in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Titanium and Ol'Aces (in pink uniforms) players exchange high-fives after their game in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



Ballfield.

The Yankees nosed out the North Starz, 9-8, last Friday for their 2-0 mark, the same slate Titanium holds following an 8-7 triumph against the Ol'Aces last Monday. Both Ol'Aces and North Starz dropped to a 0-2 card.

A four-run top of the seventh gave the Yankees the lead, which they preserved with closer Franco Flores shutting down the North Starz in the last two innings.

The Yankees were behind, 5-7, after six complete innings, but grabbed the lead, 9-7, at the top of the seventh off JD Dikito's RBI double and Robert Tudela's RBI walk. Charles

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Robbie Schorr is among the three CNMI players ahead in the Pacific Oceania 14 and Under Circuit rankings.